

# FOR THE SAKE OF FAMILIES VOTE NO

## Local Mother Says—Vote NO!

Thank you for allowing me to share about my lifetime experience with alcohol. By the time I reached sixteen years of age I had been neglected by my father, estranged by my mother, sexually assaulted by a man twice my age, had dropped out of school and become an unwed mother. Alcohol was a major contributing factor in all the instances. It was in my home, at school and there was always an adult willing to pick up some booze on the weekend for the minors. Later in life I was married to a man who drank a case of beer a day for over decade. I can testify to the fact that some will profit financially from the sale of alcohol in Cullman. They are bar owners, bondsmen, lawyers, and court referral programs, to name a few. Others will suffer deep emotional and financial hardship due to the enslavement of a loved one to alcohol. It saddens me to see leaders in our community tout the benefits of such a devastating drug for the sake of possible commerce. We will forever mar the landscape of our unique community if we heed the call of those who proclaim the benefits of this legal drug for financial gain. 'Fine dining' is easily defined as any meal without a drunkard at the table.

Janet Frank Chandler  
706 9th Avenue SE  
Cullman, AL 35055

## Local Doctor Says—Vote NO!

The issue of alcohol sales in Cullman is once again before us. My family has been in Cullman for 15 years now. We came here for a variety of reasons but one prominent reason was the safe, family-friendly community. It is a shame that some people who live here want to make Cullman "like Birmingham or Decatur". I guess "the grass is always greener...". The stale arguments about restaurants and tax revenue continue to be tossed about without ANY evidence to support those claims. I am writing however from my professional perspective. I am a healthcare professional and a public safety first responder with 25 years experience in EMS, police and fire-rescue service in Florida, Georgia and Alabama. Alcohol-related assaults, domestic violence, and traffic fatalities are common places where intoxicating beverages are readily available. Emergency workers see first-hand the devastating consequences of alcohol. This is not the Cullman we want—believe me. There is no benefit to a community that can justify the pain, suffering and loss of life that will accompany legal alcohol sales. Be wise, Vote NO!

Scott Warner, MD

## Local Minister Says—Vote NO!

I have served as a volunteer police CHAPLAIN and want to make sure that no one misunderstands me to claim to be a sworn police officer!

In my role as a volunteer police CHAPLAIN I've ridden with sworn officers on an almost weekly basis. These are good faith estimates of the years and places in which I've served:

I was one of four volunteer police CHAPLAINS for The City of Winston-Salem, NC. WSPD had 457 sworn officers at that time. I had 127 in my assignment and rode with 91 different officers during my tenure there, riding almost every Friday night between 4:00p.m. until 1:00a.m. (1982-1984)

I was one of two volunteer police CHAPLAINS for The City of Collegedale, TN. CPD had 11 sworn offices at that time. I can only estimate my years in Collegedale but I think that it was from 1994 until 2000; again riding almost weekly.

I am one of two volunteer CHAPLAINS with The City of Cullman, AL police. I've served in this capacity here in Cullman for almost one year; trying to ride weekly.

**Of all the domestic violence calls that the officer with whom I was riding received, every one of them involved one or both of the parties being liquored up. For me personally, there has not been an exception to this fact.**

Jim O'Dillion  
Minister of Education and Outreach  
First Baptist Church, Cullman

# CELEBRATE CULLMAN -- VOTE NO NOVEMBER 2ND