

Norris Square Community Action Network, NSCan

MEDIA ADVISORY

Attention: Editors & Assignment Desks

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For Immediate Release

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“NORRIS SQUARE RESIDENTS RALLY TO URGE CITY’S DA TO DROP *ALL* CHARGES AGAINST BUSINESS OWNER”

WHY?

-Last week in the midst of the looting taking place in many parts of the city, a mob of men descended into the Norris Sq. neighborhood (in South W. Kensington) and began to break-in into two local businesses.

-Mr. Tony Gonzalez, owner of the bar Half Times-Good Times, tried to prevent the men (armed with sledgehammers) from breaking the doors and gates of both stores. Mr. Gonzalez fired his licensed firearm into the air. When a police patrol arrived, instead of chasing after the looters, a SWAT Team was called, and Mr. Gonzalez was arrested.

-Mr. Gonzalez is now required to appear at the Philadelphia Municipal Court on the 18th of November at 12 noon. He faces four criminal counts.

-Local residents are indignant that this business owner, a life-long resident, well-known for his financial support to many youth and community programs, was arrested while exerting his right to protect his business and that of a fellow businessman. At the Rally, the residents will circulate a petition urging Lawrence S. Krasner, Philadelphia’s DA, to drop *all* charges against Mr. Gonzalez, given the climate of destruction of property and the looting that was taking place in parts of the city that evening.

WHEN: Thursday, November 5th/Assembling: 5:45pm; Rally: 6pm

WHERE: Corner of N. Howard and W. Diamond Streets

CONVENOR: Norris Square Community Action Network-NSCan

AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW:

Community residents, not-for-profit, business and religious leaders, and block captains

11/4/2020/10:00am

About NSCan: NSCan is a resident-led independent organization representing 7 blocks, which advocates for social and economic justice, a cleaner and safer neighborhood, equitable allocation of municipal services, and working to improve health outcomes among local residents. In mid-March, NSCan began a door-to-door food distribution program targeted at the elderly, low-income families and residents with chronic health conditions, a wellness check and a prescription pick up program targeted at the elderly. These programs continue to-date.

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