



For Immediate Release

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Stand for Peace 9th Anniversary Press Conference

What: On the 9th Anniversary of Standing for Peace, weekly vigil at Colony Square opposing United States occupation in Afghanistan and Iraq, Georgia WAND will stand with dozens of other faithful activists, signs and banners in hand, as we continue to oppose the wars abroad. We will host a press conference at 12:30 and present "The Numbers of War" including data on only the dollars spent and lives lost, war injuries, and the war's effect on women, children and the homeless both in the U.S. and abroad.

Who:

- Georgia WAND
- American Friends Service Committee
- Atlanta Grandmothers for Peace,
- Women Watch Afrika
- Alice Lovelace, local poet, artist and activist
- community members and local activists

When: Friday, August 26, 2011 – 11am to 1pm

***press conference at 12:30 pm**

Where: Colony Square, Corner of 14th Street and Peachtree Street

Why: On August 27, 2003, spurred by a change.org call for citizens across the country to ask their senators to vote against a U.S. attack on Iraq, a group of Atlantans attempted to schedule a meeting with former governor and then Senator Zell Miller, at his Colony Square office. Senator Miller's office refused to make an appointment with the group. In turn, five activists later pegged 'The Atlanta Five' refused to leave and were arrested.

The larger group committed themselves to stand at the corner until the Iraq and Afghanistan wars were over and the troops came home. Aside from a short pause after President Barack Obama was elected in 2008, the group has gathered, rain or shine, every Friday since August 27, 2002.

Statement to the Press: “With so much concern around the national budget, astronomical amounts of money being spent, and the debt ceiling having already having been raised, what we really need is a war debt ceiling,” Amanda Hill-Attkisson, Georgia WAND managing director said.