

It is with great sadness that we announce the closing of 501 North Kitchen + Bar. After much consideration and even more prayer, I decided that last Saturday night, July 2nd, would be our final service. My focus now is to assist my staff in all ways possible to ensure them a timely transition to new employment. Although this was a heart wrenching decision to make, it is simply no longer logical nor financially prudent to keep our doors open in today's economy. The relentless inflation, labor challenges and general economic headwinds we face moving forward have become intolerable and seemingly with no end in sight.

As we all know, in March 2020, Covid dealt an epic blow to restaurants across the country. As 501 had only been open a few months, I am extremely proud we survived the tsunami of challenges Covid created for as long as we have. This is entirely due to the hard work, dedication and patience of my staff throughout the epidemic and aftermath. Sadly, I was forced to lay off most of my staff when the Governor closed indoor dining, yet all of them were integral to our hugely successful opening and I'm deeply grateful for their hard work. The few that remained then worked tirelessly, through closures and uncertainty, week to week, risking their health and well-being by continuing to serve you, our friends and guests, rather than remain safe at home as they could have. Through mask mandates, supply and labor shortages, constantly shifting regulations and hours, they persevered and without their dedication I would have been forced to write this letter two years ago. I remain eternally grateful to them all, especially my Chef, Kitchen Manager and dear friend, Mechelle and our dedicated culinary staff whose talent, loyalty, hard work and friendship are simply immeasurable.

I am in discussion with my landlord as to the future of the 501 space and expect to see a new tenant with a different concept reopening the doors very soon. Throughout my opening, the pandemic and aftermath, I have been blessed by their grace, generosity and support which allowed me the opportunity to keep 501 open and hopeful for better days ahead.

As many of you also know, I have three silent partners who are all very dear to me. I would be amiss to not publicly thank them for their unwavering friendship, loyalty, support and understanding throughout the pandemic. Although our success was short lived, we all remain proud of what we created and grateful for the friendships, memories and great times we were blessed to share with you all.

Lastly, to you, our guests and our very talented musician friends...THANK YOU. Thanks to your unwavering support and friendship, 501 North debuted with a roaring start. Yet an unimaginable pandemic lurked around the corner and the whole world changed. We all changed. But what will never change are the friendships and memories we've made and will hopefully continue to make together at our other beloved local restaurants and bars. Please continue to support them and our talented musician friends and we'll look forward to toasting you there. In closing, we are so grateful for the encouragement, the memories, the kick ass music, laughs and fun times together. We wish you all the best and hope to see you soon.

With loving thanks,
Stefanie