

PRESS RELEASE

VIGNARAJAH LAUNCHES HARDHITTING \$750,000 TV CAMPAIGN

"Answers the Call" highlights Vignarajah's longstanding work in the community; frames Vignarajah as the alternative and antidote to corruption and incompetence

BALTIMORE. April 17, 2024.

Taking aim at both Mayor Brandon Scott and former Mayor Sheila Dixon, Democratic mayoral candidate and former Deputy Attorney General Thiru Vignarajah launched today a massive \$750K television campaign as the race enters the final four weeks.

Having raised more through public financing over the past three months than both his opponents combined, Vignarajah's blitzkrieg strategy to flood voters coincides with the public beginning to tune into the race with the first televised debate on WBAL at 7 PM tonight.

This first commercial, "<u>Answers the Call</u>," opens by contrasting the Mayor's directive to arrest BGE protestors last summer who were trying to block BGE from unlawfully shutting off gas service at a neighbor's home with the Mayor's inaction in the face of numerous calls for help from Brooklyn Homes in the hours preceding the worst mass shooting in Baltimore history.

Two weeks ago, the Vignarajah campaign released <u>never-before-seen body camera footage</u> that revealed the reluctance of police to make the arrests: "They'll say Baltimore Police have nothing better to do, cannot arrest juveniles who do robberies or guys on dirt bikes but they can do this. Oh man, we lose out on this deal arresting a group of senior citizens."

Featured in the commercial are three women who were arrested at the Mayor's direction (Maggie Fitzsimmons, Sandy Seward, and Claudia Towles), along with Vanessa Wagner, Deana Woodward, and Tony Smothers whose homes Vignarajah rescued from tax sales. Also speaking in support of Vignarajah in the commercial are the families of crime victims from the case of defendant Luther Trent, the arsonist released over the victims' objections whom Vignarajah successfully fought to return to jail; as well as the mothers of Daurell Hudson (stabbed to death) and Aaliyah Gonzales (killed in the Brooklyn Homes mass shooting), and the sister of Timothy Reynolds, who was killed by a squeegee worker in July 2022.

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