



For immediate release
March 7, 2019

Contacts: Michelle Woolley
Cell: 202-210-0998
Email: michelle@parisaforjustice.com

Dehghani-Tafti to Host Townhall Focused on African-American Issues in Arlington

(Arlington, VA) – Parisa Dehghani-Tafti, Democratic candidate for Commonwealth’s Attorney of Arlington County and the City of Falls Church, will host a town hall focused on African-American issues in Arlington County on Wednesday, March 13, 2019, at 7 P.M. at the Walter Reed Community Center, located at 2909 16th Street S.

While the county has a unique and rich African-American history, legal, economic, political, and other disparities remain a reality for many African Americans in Arlington. The Office of Commonwealth’s Attorney has had what can best be described as an adversarial position when it comes to African-American issues. It is worth noting that African Americans comprise approximately 10 percent of the population in Arlington, but are 60 percent of the inmates in the Arlington County Detention Center.

“The true measure of justice in any community is how the system treats people of color in general and African-Americans in particular. Both historically and in present day, any flaws and any unfairness in the system are felt first, most, and deepest by African-Americans and other communities of color. This is certainly true of the current policies and practices of the office of the Commonwealth’s Attorney,” Dehghani-Tafti said. “I am looking forward to this opportunity to listen and learn from the community on what our responsibilities are in addressing these disparities and bringing community-oriented solutions to the table.”

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Parisa Dehghani-Tafti has worked within the criminal justice system for nearly 20 years. She works as the legal director of an innocence organization and previously served as a public defender with the country’s most reputable public defender service. She has represented clients at every stage of the criminal justice process and in all levels of courts. She is a long time resident of Arlington with her husband and two children. Parisa will fight for criminal justice reform and to create a fairer, more humane, and more effective system that makes us safer.

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PARISA
for JUSTICE
Democrat
for Commonwealth's Attorney