



McLean Citizens Association Resolution

Disclosure of Investigation

November 7, 2018

Whereas, the U.S. Park Police (Park Police) shot and killed an unarmed McLean resident driving off the George Washington Parkway in November 2017; and

Whereas, a year later, the Park Police and FBI have not provided information regarding the cause of the shooting or the identities of the Park Police involved, which would provide transparency and accountability, and enhance the trust between the police and the community; and

Whereas, the following description of the event was reported by The Washington Post and was based on video of the event, accounts provided by Fairfax County police officers, and other sources; and

Whereas, Bijan Ghaisar, 25, grew up in McLean, returned after college to live in McLean, and worked for his father as an accountant; and

Whereas, Mr. Ghaisar was driving southbound on the George Washington Parkway when his 2013 sport utility vehicle was hit from behind in a minor fender-bender accident, and Mr. Ghaisar, the victim, drove away from the accident; and

Whereas, Park Police officers located and followed Mr. Ghaisar's car down the George Washington Parkway, and Mr. Ghaisar stopped his car twice on the Parkway but drove off as Park Police officers approached his car with their guns drawn; and

Whereas, when Mr. Ghaisar stopped at an intersection in the Fort Hunt area of Fairfax County and began to slowly move his car away, the Park Police officers again approached Mr. Ghaisar's car with their guns drawn, fired nine times into Mr. Ghaisar's car, as he sat unarmed, striking Mr. Ghaisar in the head four times and ultimately killing him; and

Whereas, immediately thereafter the Park Police transferred responsibility for an investigation of the shooting to the FBI, with oversight from the Civil Rights Division of the Justice Department; and

Whereas, a Fairfax County police car followed the Park Police down the Parkway with a dashboard camera recording their pursuit and the shooting, and the Fairfax County Police Chief Edwin Roessler released the recording shortly thereafter over the objections of the Justice Department; and

Whereas, the Park Service and FBI have disclosed little information about the shooting in the year since it took place despite numerous requests from Mr. Ghaisar's family, elected representatives in the U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives, Virginia State Senate, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, and the Washington Post and others.

Now, therefore be it resolved that, with the passage of a year since the shooting, the McLean Citizens Association urges the Park Police and the FBI to disclose promptly the identities of the police officers involved, their explanations for the shooting, and findings from the investigation, in the interest of transparency and accountability to our community; and

Be it further resolved that the McLean Citizens Association commends the Fairfax County Police Department for making itself available to support the Park Police if required and, in particular, commends Chief Edwin Roessler for releasing the video of the incident in a timely manner.

Approved by the MCA Board of Directors

Date 11/07/2018

McLean Citizens Association, P.O. Box 273, McLean, Virginia 22101

cc:

Robert D. MacLean, Chief, U.S. Park Police
Christopher A. Wray, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
John Foust, Dranesville District Supervisor
Fairfax County Board of Supervisors
Alan L. Hanson, Commander, McLean District Station
Edwin Roessler Jr, Chief, Fairfax County Police Department
State Senator Barbara Favola
State Delegate Kathleen Murphy
Congressman Don Beyer
Congresswoman Barbara Comstock
Congresswoman Elect Jennifer Wexton
Senator Mark Warner
Senator Tim Kaine
Tom Jackman, Washington Post