LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Why was Bijan Ghaisar killed?

The Nov. 18 editorial "365 days and, still, zero answers" noted the first anniversary of the shooting, and killing by U.S. Park Police of Bijan Ghaisar as he sat unarmed in his car. Ghaisar was driving on the George Washington Parkway when his car was hit from behind in a minor fender bender. He drove away, was followed by Park Service Police, pulled over twice, but drove away as Park Police approached his car with their guns drawn. He was shot the third time he pulled over.

Ghaisar, 25, grew up, lived and worked as an accountant for his father in McLean. He was part of our community, and we are saddened by his loss.

A year later, the Park Police and FBI have not disclosed who the Park Police officers were, why the shooting took place or other information from their investigation. They have not provided the transparency and accountability that are critical for trust and safety for the community and the police. The Park Police and FBI need to share that information as soon as possible.

In contrast, the Fairfax County police followed the Park Police in pursuit of Ghaisar and recorded the shooting on a dashboard camera. Fairfax County Police Chief Edwin C. Roessler Jr. released the recording shortly after the shooting.

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