



THIRU

MAYOR 2020

A BLUEPRINT FOR BALTIMORE

THIRU'S PLAN TO UNLEASH THE PROMISE OF OUR GREAT CITY



VOTE BY MAIL BY JUNE 2

END THE BLOODSHED

CUT MURDERS IN HALF DURING FIRST TERM

- Conduct **simultaneous wiretaps** of violent gangs in the city's 12 deadliest neighborhoods, culminating in coordinated arrests of 150-250 violent criminals in April 2021, just before the summer surge of gun violence.
- Launch a **cold case initiative** for murders involving high-caliber weaponry, 10 or more gun casings, and headshots.
- Refer to the U.S. Attorney's Office **all carjackings, bank and commercial robberies, and felon-in-possession cases** for potential federal prosecution. (These are crimes over which there is automatic federal jurisdiction.)

Former NAACP President "Doc" Cheatham and Councilwoman Rikki Spector stand with Thiru on key crime-fighting strategies.



"Thiru's crime plan is innovative and fearless, willing to do what others have refused. As a federal and city prosecutor, he actually fought crime."

- Councilwoman Rikki Spector, represented the 5th district for nearly 40 years.

BREAK THE CYCLE OF POVERTY, CRIME, AND PRISON

- **Forgive government debt** for returning citizens who hold down jobs and avoid criminal conduct for 2 years.
- Launch **"Faith in Justice" reentry initiative**, securing
- \$5 million in federal grant money from the Second Chance Act, for 100 nonprofits and faith organizations to help with reentry for 500 citizens annually returning from prison.



The Wire's Snoop and Innocence Project exoneree, George Seward, unveil Thiru's automatic expungement program at Northeast Market.



- Dedicate \$10 million to a **diversion program** modeled on the District Court Re-entry Project, which would allow juveniles and low-level offenders to avoid prison by enrolling in skills training, workforce development, and job placement as a condition of probation.

"Giving people back their lives, families, and opportunities is what we're here for."

- Matthew Judon, Ravens Linebacker

FORGE A POLICE FORCE WE CAN ALL BE PROUD OF

- **Create a College Cadet program** to recruit 100-150 graduating seniors each year from local schools, particularly HBCUs like Morgan State and Coppin State, in order to develop a more diverse, local, and professional police force.
- **Redeploy 90+ school police** to neighborhood foot patrols, instead of fueling the school-to-prison pipeline.
- **Lift arbitrary police eligibility restrictions**, including the ban on candidates who have used marijuana in the last three years.
- Free up experienced detectives by **hiring private security** to cover business districts and public events.



"Vignarajah has put forth, no doubt, the most comprehensive crime-fighting plan of anyone, including the police department and the Justice Department."

BUILD SMARTER, STRONGER CASES AGAINST REPEAT VIOLENT OFFENDERS

- **Utilize aerial surveillance** – with judicial approval and public disclosure – to assist violent crime investigations.
- Offer \$100 rebates to residential and commercial property owners who purchase cloud-based security cameras and register them with BPD, with the ultimate goal of adding **10,000 ground cameras** to the city's private camera network.
- **Clear the backlog of untested burglary crime scene evidence**, because 40% of DNA and fingerprints in burglary cases hit off the federal forensic database, resulting in more effective prosecutions of violent offenders.



"Thiru's plan will drastically reduce violent crime. I strongly believe that his vision for this community will make us all safer."

- Former Baltimore Co. Police Chief, Jim Johnson



RECOVERY TO PROSPERITY

Immediate: Provide Relief to Support Families and Small Businesses

- Inject **\$250 million in stimulus** to fund accelerated road repair and construction projects, the installation of HVAC in every public school while they sit empty, and expanded free WiFi to bridge the digital divide.
- **Stabilize finances of first responders** by guaranteeing appropriate overtime and hazard pay and by offering free local housing, granting essential workers appropriate sick leave, and waiving minor privilege fees for small businesses.

On Baltimore's economy, "a potential game-changer in the field is a former deputy attorney general and federal prosecutor, Thiru Vignarajah."

The Washington Post

Six to 18 Months: Build the Road to Recovery as We Reopen Our Economy

- **Jumpstart a vibrant, inclusive economy** by beginning to cut property taxes, invigorating key industries like biotech, increasing access to capital for businesses, and developing creative partnerships to invest in our city's diverse workforce.
- **Re-launch the dollar homes program**, reinvest in community land trusts, and reduce vacant housing stock.



"His tax plan – visionary and actionable – reflects exactly the kind of leadership Baltimore needs in its next mayor."

– Former WYPR President, Tony Brandon



Five to 10 Years: Spark Next Generation New Deal

Inject \$4 billion through a public-private investment program to:

- **Rebuild our transit network and water-sewage systems** to ensure full compliance with federal guidelines.
- **Renovate our crumbling schools** to compete with neighboring counties.
- Lead the nation in **smart city innovations**, from traffic signal synchronization to laying the groundwork for a universal fiber optic network.



“Over 100 CEOs and Business Leaders Endorse Thiru Vignarajah For Mayor”

EDUCATION FOR ALL

A MARSHALL PLAN TO FIX CITY SCHOOLS

*"It is easier to **build strong children** than to repair broken men."*

Frederick Douglass

Counteract Declining Public School Enrollment

- **Guarantee free, universal Pre-K** for all three- and four-year-olds.
- Ensure **free higher education** for every city public school graduate at trade schools, community colleges, and public or private universities in Maryland.

Reimagine the Role of Public Schools in Community Life

- **Phase all K-8 public schools into community schools**, transforming them into cornerstones of community life.
- Offer **extended-day instruction and weekend instruction** at no cost at select schools.



Improve the Quality of Education Delivered in Baltimore's Schools

- **Expand programs for enterprising students** to accelerate their education with trade school instruction, university-level coursework, and apprenticeships during their junior and senior years of high school.
- **Offer stipends to local artists and musicians** who will devote time to schools without established art programs.
- Equip administrators and educators with **resources and training to offer trauma-sensitive support**.



How will we pay for it?

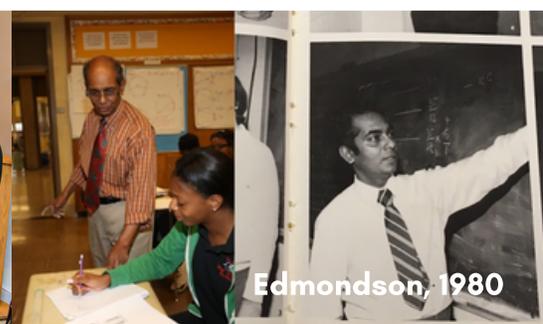
As the son of two city school teachers and a product of public schools himself, Thiru's budget will reflect his commitment to teachers and schools. Revitalization of our schools will be funded by: (1) taxing the cannabis industry, (2) auditing the education budget, (3) raising taxes on abandoned property, and (4) forging public-private partnerships.

*"Unless our children begin to **learn together**, there is little hope that our people will ever begin to **live together**."*

– Justice **Thurgood Marshall**



Poly, 1970



Edmondson, 1980

A MORE PERFECT UNION

ENSURING EQUITY IN EVERY ZIP CODE

Flatten the Curve on Racial Disparities in Public Health

- **Establish telemedicine infrastructure** so that patients of color with limited transit options are seen by a physician.
- Provide grants for **Medicaid coverage** to uninsured adults who do not currently qualify for health insurance.
- Build network of churches, barber shops, and hair salons that are prepared to **offer diagnostic testing**.
- Facilitate partnerships with nonprofits and local health institutions to **offer free annual health and wellness screenings at all public elementary schools** to test for vision and hearing, lead exposure, BMI, and trauma, and then provide the necessary resources for further treatment, if needed.
- Protect Baltimore's kids by working to **take all flavored tobacco products off the market**. Impose a 50% wholesale tax on vaping products to fund health screenings as well as youth prevention efforts and treatment for those hooked.

Build an Equitable Transit Grid

- **Extend free Circulator bus routes** to historically disinvested communities, in order to broaden access to key services, grocery stores, and jobs, with the ultimate goal of citywide free buses in the next decade.
- Require ride share companies to provide free or reduced fares for riders located in or traveling within **transit deserts**.
- Create **dedicated East-West public transit** thoroughfares exclusively for pedestrians, bicyclists, scooters, and buses.
- Break ground on **high-speed rail** between Baltimore and Washington, D.C.

"The greatest impediment to achieving racial equality is the narcotic belief that we already have."

Julian Bond, Former NAACP Chairman



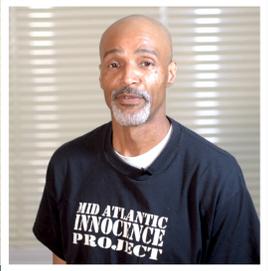
Guarantee Environmental Justice and Water Equity

- **Shut down the incinerator** and build a mixed-use materials recovery facility.
- Mandate **green design for all public housing** developments.
- **Become the first major city to prohibit water shutoffs for unpaid bills**, and freeze water bill debt until a complete audit is conducted.
- Conduct free water testing, provide filtration systems, and **rebuild our crumbling water and sewage system**.



THIRU GETS IT DONE

A LEADER FOR BALTIMORE'S NEXT CHAPTER



GEORGE SEWARD

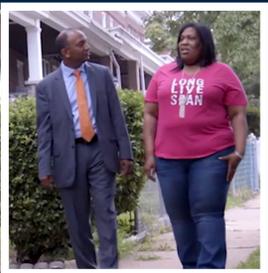
I did 31 years for a crime I didn't commit. Thiru stood up for me.

I was freed three decades after being convicted based on a misidentification by a witness of another race. It did not matter to the judge that there was no corroborating evidence. Thiru stood up for me when no prosecutor ever had.

JEROME

We were tired of hustling corners. Thiru found us jobs.

Jerome had been a squeegee boy since he was 13. Today he's 22. He said he wanted a better life. Thiru introduced him to Tony Foreman and Cindy Wolf. He started a job the next week in the kitchen at Cinghiale.



SHAWNTA LITTLE

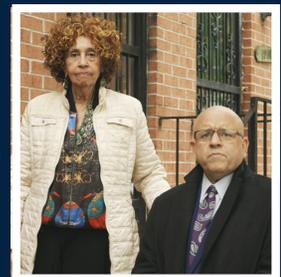
Gangs killed my little boy. Thiru got us justice.

Shawnta's 12-year-old son, Sean, was an innocent victim of guns and gang violence. Thiru took on the cold case, successfully prosecuting and convicting the two men responsible for Sean's senseless murder.

PETER BROOKS

They planned to tear down my family's history. Thiru saved it.

The city was set to demolish the home of jazz legend Cab Calloway. Joined by Calloway's daughters, his grandson Peter, and the Maryland Historical Society, Thiru spoke up when no one else would. Hours later, the city reversed its decision.



MS. BETTY

We told Thiru about the illegal trash. He cleaned it up.

We met Ms. Betty at a town hall on a Thursday when she told us about illegal dumping. No city politicians had ever gotten back to her. We cleaned it all up by Sunday and also pledged to bring back twice-a-week trash pickup.



"We must raise expectations when it comes to our leaders. Unlike anyone we've ever seen, Thiru has the ability to bring together people from all parts of the city and from all walks of life."

- Former Baltimore City Chief Judge, Wanda Keyes Heard



MEET THIRU

A BOY FROM BALTIMORE

His family came here with nothing, fleeing a civil war when Thiru was 3. His parents, both city school teachers, spent decades inspiring thousands of Baltimore kids, from Poly and Morgan State to Edmondson, Frederick Douglass, Southern, and Western. Thiru attended public schools himself, graduating from Woodlawn High before attending Yale University and Harvard Law School, where he was president of the *Harvard Law Review*. After a Supreme Court clerkship with Justice Stephen Breyer, Thiru devoted his life to



public service in Baltimore. He served as a federal prosecutor, Chief of Major Investigations in the city prosecutor's office, and then as Deputy AG of Maryland.

Now a litigation partner at DLA Piper, Thiru has taught at local law schools as well as at Hopkins, UMBC, and College Park. He sits on the board of public charter schools in East Baltimore and has coached debate at Douglass High School. He has also long supported various youth athletic programs, watched the Terps win the NCAA Final Four in Atlanta, and led his high school soccer team to a 1-42 record (yes, really).

Having tried high-profile murder cases, Thiru is the only candidate who has successfully fought crime as a federal and city prosecutor. A proven leader, Thiru also is the only candidate with a record of effectively managing complex projects, from global litigation at DLA Piper to marriage equality as Deputy Attorney General. And no one can match the arc of his family's story or his singular devotion to Baltimore.

Paid for by Thiru Vignarajah for Baltimore, Tunji Williams, Treasurer

"Once-in-a-generation lawyer and leader"

- Former Baltimore Police Commissioner, Anthony Batts



RECORD OF SERVICE

Deputy Attorney General
for the State of Maryland

Chief of Major Investigations
State's Attorney's Office

Assistant U.S. Attorney
District of Maryland

Law Clerk, Justice Breyer
U.S. Supreme Court

President
Harvard Law Review

Litigation Partner
DLA Piper (Baltimore)

Business Analyst
McKinsey & Company