

July 8, 2020

Congressman Wittman:

Thank you for your congratulatory message on securing the Democratic Nomination for United State Congress in Virginia's 1st District. I look forward to this general election campaign and the opportunity to discuss our ideas and vision for the working families of this district.

As a human rights lawyer who has dedicated my life to support women who are survivors of domestic and sexual violence, serving children from vulnerable communities, and fighting for persecuted Christians, Jews, and atheists worldwide—I'm running to transform my advocacy into results for the working families of Virginia's 1st District. I have also been a firm voice for the need to safeguard our community from the global pandemic and equip frontline workers with the resources they need. It is critical that we provide the working families of this district with as many opportunities as possible to learn about both of our campaigns, and our plans to advocate for our constituents in Washington.

After speaking with our constituents, it is clear that two debates are not enough, especially during such a challenging and uncertain time. We have spoken with constituents all around the district—from Manassas to Mathews—and regarding these debates they have told us two things loud and clear. One, that they want ample opportunity to hear from us. And two, that we must meet them where they are. For this reason, I invite you to participate in six debates around the district, hosted by independent, nonpartisan organizations such as the League of Women Voters, the NAACP, and universities in the 1st District. Debates that focus on the important issues that folks are facing—addressing the public health and economic crises, combatting racism, protecting our healthcare, protecting our environment, finally securing broadband in rural Virginia, and so much more.

Given that the constituents of Virginia's 1st District have not had the opportunity to engage with their Congressman in an open and public town hall since March of 2019, we feel it is imperative we listen to our constituents now in these difficult times and ensure we give them transparent access to both of us. We are sure you find this view of our constituents quite agreeable. Accordingly, six debates will provide us with the opportunity to discuss both of our records and be accountable to the constituents of the 1st District.

We propose the following locations to maximize access and participation from our constituents: Hanover/New Kent • Prince William County • Montross/King George • Fredericksburg/Stafford • Williamsburg • Middlesex

I hope that you will accept this opportunity to showcase your record and your achievements in congress over the last twelve years, and debate our contrasting visions for the 1st District's working families. It is time to bring civility, honesty, and integrity back to our politics and stand up for what is true and right. I look forward to your acceptance of six debates so we may begin scheduling them across the next four months until Election Day.

Respectfully,



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