

August 10, 2026

Faith Leaders, Civic Leaders and Citizens of Forsyth County,

My friends, Faith Leaders, Civic Leaders, and the citizens of Forsyth I stand before you because our community deserves leadership that is honest, accountable, and committed to serving every family, not special interests, not political insiders, but the People. Throughout history, meaningful change has never come from silence. It has come from ordinary people who refused to accept that things could not get better. It came from neighbors who cared enough to get involved, leaders who chose courage over comfort, and citizens who understood that democracy only works when we all participate. Today, our greatest challenges are not only the issues we face, but they are also apathy, misinformation, and corruption.

Today I ask for your support, your prayers, your partnership, and your vote for Amara Hunter for Forsyth County District Attorney. Forsyth deserves someone who will protect all of Forsyth County, not just those who can afford access. Attorney Hunter has over thirty years of experience as a public servant. She has served as a former Detroit Police Officer, Assistant Prosecutor, Assistant District Attorney and currently an Assistant Public Defender. She will serve our community with honor and integrity, never forgetting she serves the People, not just those with access. Ms. Hunter in 2016-2019 worked as an Assistant District Attorney under DA Jim O'Neill and saw firsthand the injustice that was handed down by the O'Neill administration. She was present in meetings where the directive was to over prosecute Black and Brown communities without impunity. The O'Neill administration has its proverbial foot on the necks of Black and Brown people. Due to the harmful politics of the DA's office Ms. Hunter resigned on May 3, 2019. Attorney Hunter is currently an Assistant Public Defender handling high level felony cases. She represents our sisters, brothers and those struggling with addiction, mental illness, the poor and those who cannot afford private attorneys.

Currently, there are forces in play who will and have attacked Ms. Hunter for daring to fight for the People of Forsyth County. She has been labeled an outsider, incompetent and a traitor for daring to run against Jim O'Neill. Our County Jail is full of people who look like us. There are thousands of people in the County jail who never have their day in court spending three to four years incarcerated pretrial. We must fight those who care little about the Black and Brown citizens of Forsyth County. We must stand with Ms. Hunter as she fights the "Good Fight" we all have an opportunity to undue systematic racism; we have an opportunity to ensure that those who were instrumental in the unethical and wrongful prosecution of Daryl Hunt. We shall never forget the wrongful conviction of Mr. Hunt and the DA's role in the wrongful prosecution and convictions of so many Black and Brown men and women. We shall not stand for it, we will rise, we will let Jim O'Neill know that no longer will we tolerate a criminal justice system that seeks to prosecute only our people. We deserve and demand better. For these reasons, I ask you to throw the full weight of your support for Attorney Amara Hunter.

Lastly, I ask you to join me and volunteer your time. Talk to your neighbors. Attend community meetings. Share accurate information not allowing those to misrepresent Ms. Hunter's record of being a fighter for the People. You can research Ms. Hunter on her website

www.amarahunter.com, you can volunteer for Ms. Hunter by emailing her at hunteramara@yahoo.com and you can financially support her by writing a check to Committee to Elect Amara Hunter, PO Box 1052, Clemmons, NC 27012.

Sincerely,

Rev. Dr. John Mendez