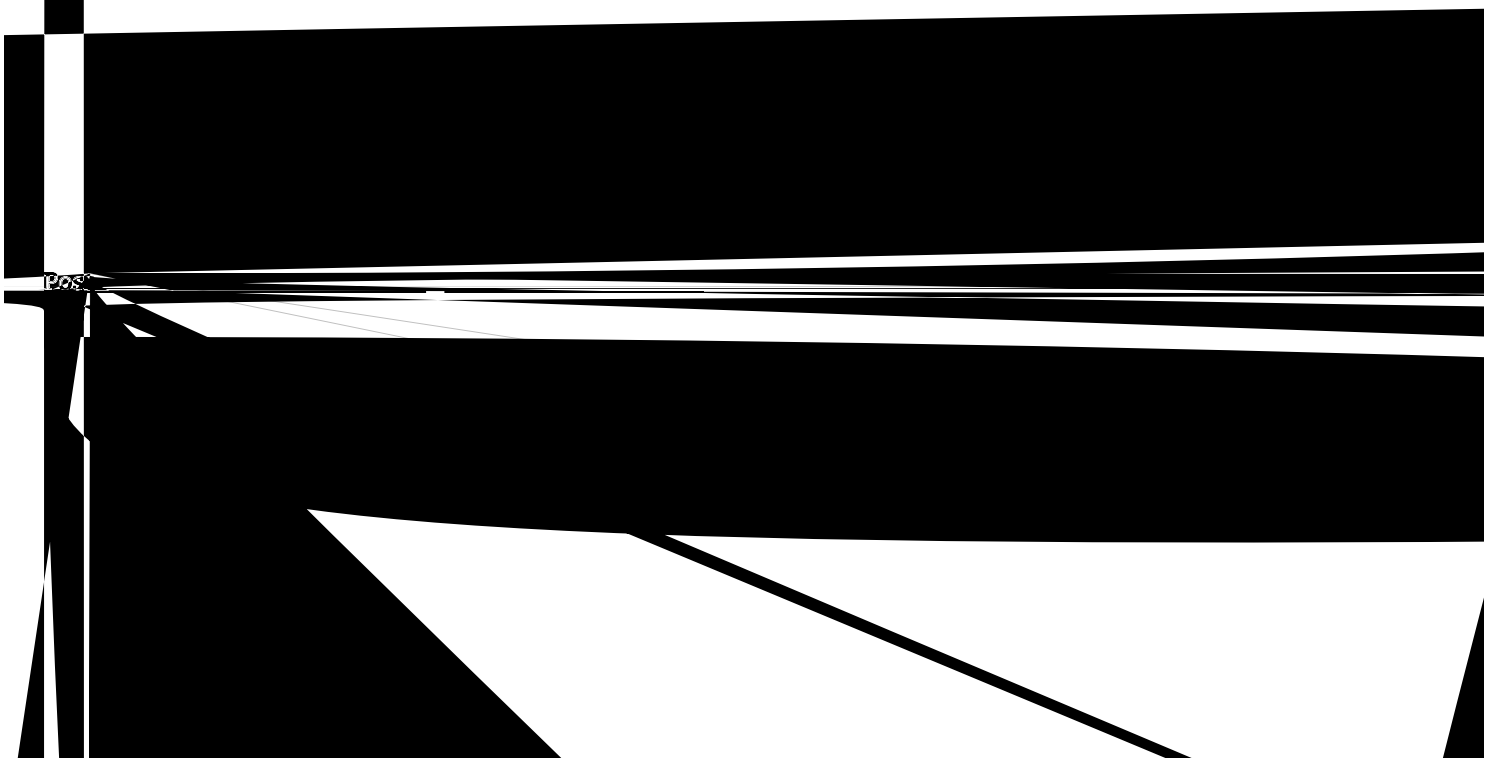


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"As heard in the questions asked tonight, South Jersey is hurting. Our economy has been hurt by the shutdown of the county as a result of COVID-19. After the murder of George Floyd, many of us are ready for our voices to be heard. And politically, we are clearly a community still reeling after the way we were treated by a president who prioritized himself over the people who voted for him just two years ago. Most of us are disappointed that nothing from Jeff Van Drew during these last few months, we are tired of not receiving the support we need from Washington and demand true leadership.

"Tonight, it showed that truth matters, words matter, ideas matter, policy matters, leadership matters. It is who we choose on July 7th matters – and these priorities will continue to if we are to beat the current administration and ultimately ensure South Jersey has strong, experienced representation in Washington.

"We must not forget that our priority is not to beat up each other, but to beat Donald Trump in November. This campaign has created a coalition we have never seen in previously contested Democratic primaries, of all political affiliations throughout each of our counties, the largest group of union supporters, and the best leaders that have represented our area for decades, and elected officials such as Senators Booker and Blumenthal. It has come from one important point of focus – joining together to elect the best candidate to represent us. Tonight provided us the opportunity to ensure this coalition's voice was heard.

"In these final days, I am hopeful that we can continue this dialog with more debates and deeper discussions. I hope this opportunity both Stockton and my fellow candidates helped provide tonight."

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