We do not have cell phone footage of abuses inside prisons and jails. I am reading the following sworn testimony from a person held in the Prince George’s County Jail to lift this veil of secrecy and hold our justice system accountable. This testimony was taken in April 2020.

The way they treat everyone, I feel like we’re being punished for having COVID-19. There’s no way they should be denying me the ability to speak to my attorney. And the nurses that come in act like they don’t want to deal with me, they don’t want to get close to me, they don’t want to treat me. They just take my temperature and then get away as fast as possible.

We don’t know what’s going on. We don’t know the policy. We don’t know when we’ll be released, how long we have to stay here. I have been using the same sheets since April 2, and they have not been washed since then.

The medical staff and COs act like we don’t have a right to know what’s going on with our own bodies. It’s like we’re lab rats.

There’s nothing to read – no bibles, no books. It’s like they’re trying to drive us crazy in here, in solitary confinement. There has been no psychologist or psychiatrist coming to see us either. The only time someone comes in here is when it’s time to eat. The nurse will come in with the CO who brings our food. Other than that, no one comes in here.

We don’t have a clock, so it’s hard for me to even know the exact time or know exactly how long things are taking.

I can’t file a grievance about any of this, because they won’t give us any paper or anything to write with. They’ve said anything that goes into our cells can’t come back out, including paper.