

SWORN STATEMENT NO.33-2

FROM PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY JAIL

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.

I am currently incarcerated in the Prince George's County Jail. There are a lot of guys on my housing unit who were really sick about two or three months ago. Three were taken off to medical and tested positive for COVID. But there were a lot more people on our unit who had symptoms. They left them in the housing unit. The jail wouldn't test anyone unless they had a fever.

I had been asking for a Coronavirus test since April. The jail just finally tested us, maybe two or three weeks ago. But that was way too late. There's a whole lot of guys on here, including me, who had symptoms and are still having symptoms, like issues breathing. I would bet eighty-five percent of the people on our unit had COVID and they just didn't test us.

It's impossible to socially distance in here, period. All the showers are side by side. All the phones are side by side. The housing unit is very full. Almost everyone has a cellmate now.

There seems to be some retaliation that's happening on our unit. Ever since the doctor came around and we spoke to him, I've noticed the COs have been more hostile to us.

We've had three officer and inmate fights, Every time it was the officer who swung first. One guy is back on our housing unit after more than a month in the hole. He's got stitches in his head from where the CO kneed his head into the wall. The CO said he didn't like how fast he was walking.

Whenever the newspaper has some news about the jail or the lawsuit against the jail, the COs will either take that section out or refuse to give us the paper at all.

We can't get grievance forms. Almost everyone on my unit has been trying to get grievance forms, for one thing or another, but no one can get one.