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.

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that the foregoing information is true:

I was working sanitation detail right before I got sick; We were the guys who clean the jail and give people their trays, meaning food. As of March and early April, we had no masks to protect ourselves and others while we were working our jobs.

It seemed like the whole unit had COVID. Everyone was coughing and sneezing. There was no social distancing. People would be shoulder to shoulder on the phones, and were sleeping in the bunks on top of each other in the open areas. We could not stay six feet apart from other people in the bunks if we tried.

When I first got sick, I started to feel a bad headache. It wasn’t like a normal headache. It felt like Shaquille O’Neal had his elbow up against my head and wouldn’t let go. It feels like a headache that is squeezing, not just aching. We were hearing about people dying from it, I was like, “Are we about to die?”

I remember a guy in the bunks had cold sweats, and I saw him having convulsions. He went to medical, got some pills for allergies, and was returned to the unit. He had another episode with convulsions, and they took him off the unit. I never saw him again.

The nurse told me “you look healthy so drink plenty of water, and you should be ok.”

Right after that, I started to feel worse symptoms.