

SWORN STATEMENT NO.45

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.

From October 2019 until May 2020, I was detained at the Prince George's County Jail. I have since tested positive for the Coronavirus.

My family kept calling up to the jail to check on me, because they were really worried about my health. A CO in the medical unit told me "if you keep having your family call up here we're going to extend your release date and take your good time." I knew I had a release date in May, but that if the jail took away my good time credits they could hold me longer than that.

While I was on the medical unit, the jail sent someone around to take photos, and they made one of the guys in there with me clean up before the pictures. I saw him clean. The photos do not show how dirty the medical unit really was.

In early May, I got moved back to my old unit, H-17. I was not tested again before I returned to my unit, and I still felt sick. I had lost a lot of weight, around 20 pounds. Guys on H-17 noticed and were calling me bony.

Social distancing was not happening on my unit before I was released on May 18. People were still using the phones right next to each other, and we didn't have regular access to disinfecting wipes to use between calls. I only remember the jail giving me one disposable mask. Then, the family of one of the inmates on my unit donated some masks to the jail and we got another one.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, all the way up until my release, it seemed like they stopped sick call. Unless you had a high temperature, you could not go to medical.

I completely stopped seeing the people who used to come to the units to check on peoples' mental health when the COVID-19 Pandemic started. I did not see them at all, even up to the time I was released.