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.

I am currently incarcerated at the Prince George's County Jail. I contracted the Coronavirus while detained at the jail and have since tested positive for the virus.

On April 11, I asked the nurse to take my temperature with the thermometer that goes in your mouth. She refused to do it. I explained that I didn’t want to have my temperature taken with the scanner thermometer, because it’s not accurate. The last time she took my temperature with the scanner, it said I had a temperature of 93.5 degrees, which just did not seem right. After I explained this, the nurse took my temperature with a thermometer in my mouth, and I got a reading of 98.3 degrees.

Everyone else in the ten-man cell saw all of this happen. And so then everyone else said they wanted the thermometer that goes in your mouth too. But the nurse was trying to rush out, she wanted to do our temperatures with the scanner.

She went and got the Sergeant, and we told the Sergeant that we value our health and want reliable temperatures taken, since this is the only medical monitoring we’re getting. The Sergeant said, look, the nurse “has kids.”

Well, we have kids too. And this is our health we’re talking about.

They ended up saying we could either get our temperatures taken with the scanner, or not have our temperatures taken at all, even though the nurse had the mouth thermometer right there with her.

Some people got their temperatures taken with the scanner, some people refused on principle. And at first, the nurse wasn’t even going to give food trays to the guys who refused.