

SWORN STATEMENT NO. 1

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. This testimony was taken in April 2020.

I am incarcerated at the Prince George's County Jail. Detained since late January, 2020. I have chronic bronchitis. I've probably had it since I was about 6 years old. It comes down on me hard. Last year, I was in the hospital for a week straight because I couldn't breathe.

Since the jail started 23-hour-a-day lockdown, there has been bad ventilation that makes it harder to breathe. I am coughing up mucus, my chest hurts. I woke up this morning with a bloody nose. It feels like my taste buds are numb. I have hot chips that I eat and do not taste the hotness.

I spoke to somebody in my unit who had just returned from the medical unit, where he was sent for coughing and a fever. After three days he came back and told me that it was overcrowded and that he did not receive any care, he was just kept alone in a room by himself and received no medicine.

I asked to get into the medical unit but they make you pay \$4 for the form and I don't have money for that. The person in the cell next to me had to go to the medical unit because he was sneezing, shaking, and sweating. I was just talking to him the day prior, and when I was talking with him I was within a foot of him. I have not received any information about how to protect myself from the Coronavirus.

I have not seen any staff or detainees clean any parts of the unit. I have not been provided any personal protective equipment besides one mask. We have not been provided hand sanitizers, disinfectants, or liquid soap.

Being stuck in a cell for all but one hour a day makes me want to go crazy. I feel like I do not have enough time; during that one hour of rec I have to shower, clean my cell, and call my family.

This is my first time being locked up. I just want to get home.