

SWORN STATEMENT NO.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. This testimony was taken in April 2020.

I am 26 years old. Detained in the Prince George's County Jail since March 2020. I am afraid of getting coronavirus. I got dizzy before. I had heat flashes but they didn't check me that night, so I wouldn't know if my temperature was high. They told me that they had checked my temperature 5 hours ago and I was ok. It's psyching me out a lot, I start to get panicky and think I have symptoms. A lot of us are panicky.

I have noticed other people in my unit getting sick, they just took another dude out of here about a day ago and he hasn't been back. He had a fever and they said he was throwing up. I read the inmate handbook and I think they are violating a lot of the handbook rules. The mission statement says they are supposed to protect us from disease, maintain a sanitary environment.

The jail has given us really nothing in terms of information about the coronavirus, just wash our hands sometimes. They don't clean the showers, wipe the hand rails or nothing. I think the unit holds 100 but I think there are 84 people in here now. There are 12 phones in my unit, but we are only allowed to use 6. People are 3 feet apart when they are using them. The phone is not getting wiped down between people using it. Soap is provided through the commissary. I have access to soap, but I know of people who don't.

I tried to file a grievance because the CO put the trays on the floor. I told the CO that it was unsanitary and against the health code. I asked to grieve it, the Sergeant was already on the unit. The zone commander told me it wasn't a grievable issue.

They said everybody is going in front of one judge and the judge is saying they don't think the coronavirus is adequate reason for people to get released. They are saying no for no reason. I have been fortunate to not have personally experienced any symptoms of COVID-19 up to this point.