

SWORN STATEMENT NO.34

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.

I am currently incarcerated in the Prince George's County Jail.

I suffer from anemia and I have an irregular heartbeat that causes me to have problems breathing. That is a big concern for me because I have heard the coronavirus messes with your breathing and your heart.

Around the end of April, I could not taste or smell for two to three days. I did not know that loss of taste and loss of smell were symptoms of COVID-19 because the jail had not given me any information about the symptoms. I told the nurses that I could not taste or smell and they did not do anything about it and did not test me for COVID-19.

In late May everyone on my unit was tested for COVID-19. A few days after we got tested, the COs came and snatched five people from my unit. For the roommates of the guys who tested positive, they kept them right here on the unit with the rest of us.

I see them use the same phones, the same showers and go in the same areas as everyone else, and nobody does any special cleaning in between when they come out to rec and when the next group of people comes out.

A week ago, the guys who tested positive came back to the unit. They all say they were not re-tested. I am on cleaning detail, so I know about the cleaning products we use. The COs will take the Spray Nine from the one jug and pour it into 5 jugs and I add water so that it is heavily diluted.

People are still getting sick, and the jail just keeps putting more and more people on my unit. My unit is still on lockdown 23 hours a day. This jail is a closed-in confined area where everybody breathes the same air. It is a scary situation. You have to almost fall out in order for them to take you serious.