

SWORN STATEMENT NO.10-1

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 currently incarcerated at the Prince George's County Jail in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. I contracted the Coronavirus while detained at the jail and have since tested positive.

Before being moved to the medical unit, I was in the work unit. We are the guys who work in the kitchen. This outbreak has occurred on our unit, but the whole thing has been hush-hush.

One day, we came to work, and there were buckets and a pile of rags waiting for us. The kitchen manager said that we all had to wipe down the entire kitchen – all of the handles, the tables, the break room, the handrails, the ovens, the freezers, everything. While we cleaned, we wore the gloves we prepare the food with, but they didn't give us masks. They didn't tell us why, they just told us to wipe down everything.

On Friday, April 3, I started to have symptoms. I could feel aches in my spine and kidneys, and my body had fevers and chills. One minute I would feel like I'm freezing, and the next I'm heating up and my forehead is sweating.

I told the nurse I wasn't feeling right. But she told me, "you'll be alright," and left. I've had the same mask since Friday, April 3. It seems really dirty. When the nurse came by on April 6, I asked for another mask, because I've been coughing and sneezing into mine so much. But she told me I can't get another mask.

On April 8, I tried to wash my mask because it was getting so dirty. I very gently washed it with soap and water in the palm of my hand. I had to be very gentle, because otherwise it would tear apart. I don't know if that sanitized the mask or not.

People are punished when they go to medical isolation, they're told "they put themselves in here." So a lot of people are just trying to tough it out, but it's spreading it.

SWORN STATEMENT NO.10-1 [cont.]

I've seen people in the kitchen unit sneezing as they prepare food. I've seen some people pushing food carts and distributing trays without gloves. My cellmate was sneezing and coughing when I left him.

There are going to be more people with the virus coming down to the medical unit. It's just a matter of time. This is just the beginning.