

SWORN STATEMENT NO.36-2

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.

I am currently incarcerated at the Upper Marlboro Detention Center. Under penalties of perjury, I declare that the foregoing information is true.

I had a runny nose and could not taste or smell anything. Even though I had already told them about my symptoms, the jail would not let me go to medical until I laid on the bed and said I could not breathe and I had chest pains.

When I did finally get to go to medical, then they sent me back because I did not have a high fever.

I remember feeling chest pains and shortness of breath. I told the nurse, and she said "everybody has chest pains." She ignored me and did not give me any medicine or medical attention.

I was calling home as much as I could, because I wanted to let them know I was still alive. Every day, I was feeling worse. I kept hearing about people dying in jail and in the world from COVID-19. I was starting to panic like I was next.

The nurse told me "either your body is going to fight it or you are going to die"

We had two bathrooms to share between all of us, and the COs would just push food in. We had a water cooler but they did not fill it. We had to try to fill it up with water from the sink by taking a trash bag and running water down the trash bag into the cooler.

The whole time that I was on the medical unit, I was not allowed to take a shower. I think I went 14 days without one. I went six days with no toothpaste, no soap, and no deodorant. It made me feel like the scum of the earth. We couldn't smell ourselves, but we felt dirty.

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From the day I first went to medical until the day I returned, I had the same drawers on. I had to wear them for so long, they turned brown. Everybody in there's drawers were brown. Some of the guys in the tank stopped wearing them because they were so dirty.

I still was feeling symptoms when I returned to H-17. I was not retested before they returned me to my unit.

The nurse told me that I had heart flutter kicks after I tested positive. I never had heart problems before I caught COVID-19 at the Prince George's County Jail.