

# SWORN STATEMENT NO.37

## 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 a resident of Prince George's County. My son was incarcerated at the Prince George's County Jail in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. He contracted the COVID-19 Coronavirus while being detained at the jail and has since tested positive for the virus.

In the span of 24-28 hours, [inmates] are allowed one hour of free time, and during this time I was able to talk to my son. My son was there for about a week and a half before he started experiencing symptoms: coughing, chills, sweats, and throwing up. He also was unable to smell and taste his food. Only one correctional officer asked if he was okay. The COs acted like they were scared of them. When I told him to ask for a slip to see a doctor he told me the CO's acted like they didn't want to get near them.

They had to pay to see a doctor, [so] I sent him money through the commissary. They didn't see him until days after he raised concerns about his symptoms. He told me the nurse checked his ears. He told her about his other symptoms, but they didn't take time to see what was wrong.

Consistent cleaning was not happening in the jail. He had to drink water out of the sink in his cell. They only gave him one mask, changed every 8 or 9 days. They only give them a bar of soap and a rag. If they ran out of soap they weren't given anything else, and they didn't have hand sanitizer in the commissary [or] disinfectant for the cell. I asked him did they wipe the phone down, and he said no. They mop the floor maybe once a week.

My son didn't get tested for Coronavirus until the end of May. The health department called me on May 26th, [they] had been trying to contact him to let him know that he had it. They didn't give me any information on treatment, only asked about whether he had a place to stay. I asked if he should go to the hospital and they said only if he needs to go. The health department provided no resources or information for dealing with Coronavirus. My son can't go out. He can't work. He's not sleeping at night because he's coughing. He can't taste or smell his food. He's still getting hot and cold sweats.