

# SWORN STATEMENT NO.53

## 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'm currently detained in the Prince George's County Jail because I cannot afford the financial bond set in my case. I am 56 years old. I have a pre-existing condition of hypertension.

Approximately two and a half weeks ago, I began feeling ill. I was very dizzy. My appetite was suppressed and I couldn't eat anything. My body was aching. For three days I was bedridden. Three days after I started experiencing symptoms, when they did my temperature check, it was 101 degrees. But they didn't say anything to me about it. They just wrote down my temperature like everyone else's and moved along.

When the CO came around to do his checks at 11:00 p.m. I told him that I was feeling really dizzy and couldn't breathe. I'm usually pretty lively, and he could see that something was wrong with me. The CO asked me if I wanted him to call the medical unit for me, and I told him yes, that I was in a really bad way. So he called the medical unit for me and I went down for sick call.

When I went down for sick call, the nurse looked at me and said, "Why are you here? I don't know why you're here. Don't come down here unless we tell you to come down here." She took my temperature again and it was about 99.9 degrees, and then she sent me back to the housing unit. They didn't attempt to do anything.

I couldn't even eat. I forced myself to drink water. About three or four days after that, I was able to get up and walk around and get some food, and I then forced myself to eat and forced myself to move around, and slowly I felt better.

I keep up on the Coronavirus news. I like to keep abreast of what is going on. I've seen articles in the paper where the jail claims they're doing all sorts of things to inform us and protect us. That they've instituted social distancing policies at the jail. But it's not true.

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Some of the COs wear their masks, some don't. The last time I used the phones, all eleven of us were sitting about five or six inches apart talking on the phone, and the officers weren't saying anything.

In order for us to protect ourselves and know what we're up against, we have to know how many people really have contracted this virus. I think it's a really major issue that the jail is hiding the fact that there's a lot more people in here sick than they're claiming to the public.