
DECLARATION OF IYAN MURRAY

I, Iyan Murray, declare the following based on my personal knowledge. I am submitting this declaration in support of the class action suit on behalf of inmates in the El Paso County Jail.

1. My name is Iyan Murray and I am currently incarcerated in the El Paso County Jail. I am 42-years-old and I am borderline diabetic with high blood pressure. I take medication to manage my high blood pressure. I contracted COVID-19 while in the jail and am still suffering symptoms from the virus.

2. I have been in the jail since August 12, 2020 and despite being high risk for complications and even death from COVID-19, the jail took no steps to protect me from contracting the virus.

3. I have been housed in multiple wards since I arrived at the jail. I have been moved between units F1 and F2. I am currently in F1 with about 80 other people. I was never quarantined or separated from COVID-19 positive inmates despite frequently moving and being with new bunk mates.

4. In early October, a deputy in my unit was extremely sick. He was regularly coughing and sneezing and did not regularly wear a mask. This deputy informed us that he did not have COVID-19 and told us “not to worry.” I assumed the deputy had a cold and I was safe from the virus. I was wrong.

5. I began to feel strange symptoms in my body in October. I was experiencing severe headaches and had an extremely difficult time being around loud noises or any lights. I had cold sweats and always felt like there was something heavy sitting on my chest. In addition to chest pain, my body was aching all over. After a week or so of these symptoms, I lost the

ability to taste or smell anything. I assumed I had the same cold the deputy said he had. I then tested positive for COVID-19 the first week in November.

6. After the National Guard came to test the jail for COVID-19, I went to the nurse's cart to receive my blood pressure medication and asked her if anyone was monitoring the health or vitals of the individuals who tested positive for COVID-19. The nurse told me that "the jail is not doing vital checks for anyone anymore because the entire Jail has COVID-19." The same week, a Sargent in F2 informed our entire unit that "we're just going to let the virus run its course."

7. I made repeated requests for a face mask long before the National Guard testing that were denied. When I asked for a mask, jail staff threatened me and other inmates by saying if we wanted to be protected from the virus we could just go in the hole or stay in lockdown with only 1 hour of out time a day. I was afraid of retaliation for trying to protect my health and safety.

8. I only received a cloth face mask after the National Guard came to test everyone for COVID-19. Once I received my mask, I was told that deputies would come at the end of the night to clean our mask and replace it with a new one. I have not seen deputies cleaning our masks and do not believe cleaning is occurring. I wash my own mask with hand soap from the bathroom sink.

9. The hygiene conditions in our bays are dismal. In my unit, there are 80 inmates to two working toilets. Inmates are required to do all cleaning and we have limited access to cleaning supplies. We are also given limited opportunities to clean.

10. There are new admissions coming into my ward every day and there is no effort to separate people who are showing symptoms of COVID-19 from those who are not. In late

November, an individual came into F1 from the streets showing clear symptoms of COVID-19. He was so obviously sick that a deputy said: "it is not right to put someone in our bay who is sick with COVID-19. I had COVID-19 and I know what the symptoms look like. I am worried about you all." That deputy took it upon herself to remove him from our bay. I am terrified of comingling with these new people coming in off the street every day.

11. I still have severe headaches and cannot taste or smell anything. I fear negative consequences of the effects of the virus on my weakened immune system. I am horrified that the jail has said multiple times they have no plan to keep us safe and just let the virus run its way through all of us leaving unpredictable damage behind.

12. I affirm under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true to the best of my knowledge.

I, Asma Kadri Keeler, certify that I reviewed the information contained in this declaration with Iyan Murray via a video visit on December 10, 2020 and that he certified that the information contained in this declaration was true and correct to the best of his knowledge. I am unable to meet in-person with Mr. Murray as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. *See Fenty v. Penzone*, No. CV-20-01192-PHX-SPL, Docket No. 67 (D. Ariz. Nov. 13, 2020) (approving declarations in similar circumstances); *Urdaneta v. Keeton*, No. CV-20-00654-PHX-SPL (JFM), 2020 WL 2319980, at *5 (D. Ariz. May 11, 2020) (same).

s/ Asma Kadri Keeler
Asma Kadri Keeler, Esq.
ACLU of Colorado