

My name is Shannon Daves and I attest to the following facts:

1. I, Shannon Daves, am a 47-year-old transgender woman.
2. I was arrested on Wednesday, January 17, 2018, by the Dallas Police Department for a misdemeanor offense.
3. I was taken by the Dallas city police to the Dallas county jail. After waiting for several hours, a sheriff's deputy took me along with about 10 other people to see a judge.
4. Before we went into the room with the judge, the deputy told us to be quiet.
5. The judge told me the charge and told me that I would have to pay \$500 to be released from jail. He did not ask me if I could afford to pay that much money. He did not ask me any questions.
6. Before the judge was finished talking to everyone, a deputy asked me if I needed an attorney. I said yes because I cannot afford an attorney, and I saw him write yes on a piece of paper. Then he took me out of the room and I was assigned a housing unit.
7. Because I am transgender, the jail has separated me from the rest of the population. I have been in solitary confinement since I got here.

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Initials

8. I have been kept in my cell, which feels to me to be about 6 feet by 12 feet for 24 hours straight every day since I have been here. Except for the attorneys representing me in this action, I have not talked to anyone. I am not allowed out to exercise and I have to eat in my cell by myself. I never know what time of day it is or when meal time will be.
9. To my knowledge, an attorney has not been appointed for me yet and I have not been assigned a court date.
10. I do not have a job. I became homeless August 2017.
11. Because I am unemployed, I struggle to meet the basic necessities of life.
12. I cannot afford to buy my release from jail. I do not know when I will be released.
13. I feel that because I am transgender they have allowed me to fall through the cracks.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

DATED: 1/19/2018

SIGNED: Shannon Daves
Shannon Daves

1. I, Shakena Walston, am a 29-year-old woman. The jail is using an incorrect name for me (Shakena Howard).
2. I was arrested on Friday, January 19 for a felony offense
3. I was taken to the Dallas County ~~Judge~~ Jail
4. I saw a Judge who told me that my money bond amount was \$15,000. She did not tell me anything about the allegations.
5. The Judge did not ask me if I could pay that amount of money.
6. I am indigent and am currently not working. I struggle to meet the basic necessities of life.
7. I cannot afford to pay \$15,000 to be released. I avoid homelessness by staying with my sister.
8. I do not know when I will be taken to court

9. I'm trying to start a program at community college with the help of financial aid. I need to ~~be~~ be released as soon as possible so I can continue with those plans.

10. I cannot afford to buy my release from jail.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my ability

Shakena Walston
Shakena Walston

Jan. 21, 2018
Jan. 21, 2018

1. My name is Erriyah Banks. I am a 26-year-old transgender woman. The jail booked me in under the name "Erwin Lee Jones."
2. I was arrested for felony offenses and taken to a substation in Dallas County. After some time passed, I was taken to the Dallas County Jail.
3. When I got to the jail, I was taken to see a Judge who told me my charges and the money bail I would have to pay to be released. I would have to pay \$25,000 for each charge - or \$50,000 total - to get out of jail. Before the hearing, the officers told us all not to talk during the hearing.
4. No one ever asked me if I could afford to pay that amount of money. Each hearing lasted about a minute.
5. I was with about 15 other people when I saw the judge. After the judge told everyone their charges and how much they had to pay to get out, the Deputy asked ~~us~~ ^{us} whether any of us had enough cash to bond out.

EB

EB

6. There's an ATM in the jail. If a person has enough money to pay the bail, they can take out that money, pay, and go home.

7. I can't afford to pay my money bail amount. So I was booked into the jail.

8. I have some health issues and need certain medication. I also have to have a special diet. I've asked the jail for these, but am not receiving them, even though my health could ~~be~~ suffer.

9. I live with my Mom who receives disability payments and food stamps.

10. She relies on me to take care of her. Without me there, I'm worried about her health and safety.

11. I am not currently employed.

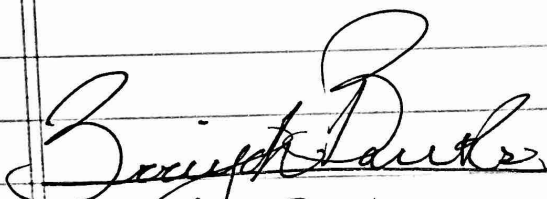
12. I struggle to meet the basic necessities of life.

EB

13. I cannot afford to buy my release from jail.

14. I need to get home to take care of my Mom.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my ability.


Errivah Banks

01/21/2018
Date

1. I, Petroba Michielko, am a 30-year-old man.
2. I was arrested on Friday, Jan. 19 for a felony offense.
3. I was taken to the Dallas County Jail and waited for hours in a ballpen with about 20 other people and only benches to sit on.
4. Eventually, I was taken to see a Judge, along with about 20 other people.
5. The deputies told us not to ask any questions during the hearings.
6. The Judge read me my charge and told me my money bail was \$500, and I had to pay that amount of money to get out of jail.
7. No one ever asked me if I could afford that amount of money.
8. I struggle to meet the basic necessities of life.

pm

9. I live with my mother to avoid homelessness
10. I was working a few days a week before my arrest, but I may no longer have that job.
11. I cannot afford to buy my release from jail.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my ability.

Petroba Michielko
Petroba Michielko

2/23/18
Date

1. I, James Thompson, am a 38-year-old man.
2. I was arrested on Thursday, January 18 for non-violent felony offenses.
3. I was taken to the lock-up in Garland and was kept there for a day or two. I was told I had to pay \$90,000 to be released. I cannot afford that amount of money.
4. I was transferred to the Dallas County Jail on Friday.
5. After I got to jail, I was taken with about ten other people to a room with a judge.
6. The judge told me that I was charged with several felony offenses, but he did not tell me anything about the allegations.
7. He also told me that I will have to pay \$135,000 to be released from jail.
8. No one ever asked me if I could pay that amount of money.

9. I am indigent and cannot afford to pay that amount.
10. I struggle to meet the basic necessities of life. I am not employed, and I avoid homelessness by living with my parents.
11. I do not know when I will be taken to court.
12. I cannot afford to buy my release from jail.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my ability.

James Thompson
James Thompson

1-20-18

Date



Elizabeth Rossi <elizabeth@civilrightscorps.org>

Fwd:

Brittany White <bwhite@faithintx.org>
To: Elizabeth Rossi <elizabeth@civilrightscorps.org>

Fri, Jan 19, 2018 at 12:43 AM

**Brittany M. White**Live Free Organizer at **Faith in Texas****Address** 1111 W Mockingbird Ln Ste 595, Dallas, TX 75247**Mobile** 937-546-1668**Email** BWhite@faithintx.org**Website** www.faithintx.org

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: Brittany White <bwhite@faithintx.org>

Date: Thu, Jan 18, 2018 at 11:27 PM

Subject:

To: <Diana.lugo@dallascounty.org>, <ANTONIA.TAPIA@dallascounty.org>

Cc: Brianna Brown <bbrown@organizetexas.org>

January 18, 2018

Dear Sheriff Brown:

Faith in Texas is a multi-racial faith movement for social justice. We train teams of leaders in local churches, mosques, and synagogues that serve low- and moderate-income people. These Justice Teams identify systemic problems that affect their communities and move entire congregations to action through policy campaigns like our Live Free campaign, which has as its chief goal ending mass incarceration in the state of Texas.

Texas Organizing Project (TOP) promotes social and economic equality for low to moderate income Texans through community and electoral organizing. TOP provides hard working Texans the opportunity to implement real change by organizing their own neighborhoods, investing their time and energy in causes relevant to their respective communities, and collectively taking ownership over TOP's agenda, strategy and direction.

Each of our organizations are very concerned about the money bail system in Dallas, which disproportionately affects poor people and people of color. We, Brittany White, Live Free Organizer with Faith in Texas and Brianna Brown, Deputy Director of Texas Organizing Project are writing to ask that we, as well as our organizations, their leaders, members, and member congregations be allowed to observe the bail hearings that take place inside the Lew Sterrett Jail, and to take notes on what happens at the hearings. We want to use the notes we will take for outreach to the community, including potentially using the notes to provide information to the families of the people in the hearings who are in urgent need of real-time information about what's happening to their loved one who has just been arrested. We would also like to take our observations and produce reports for the public. Further, we want to be able to identify

whether certain zip codes are disproportionately represented in the jail population as well as identifying factors that determine a person's money bail and eligibility for release.

We do not want to watch recordings of hearings that have taken place in the past. It is important that we be able to watch the hearings live.

We would like to begin our observations as soon as possible and no later than February 1. Please let us know by January 23 whether this will be possible so that we can make further plans for organizing our staff and members to observe.

Matthew 25:36 says "I was in prison and you visited me." As faith and community leaders, we are called to be physically present with people in their bail hearings, granting this access is critical to us living out this calling.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brittany White
Live Free Organizer at Faith in Texas

Brianna Brown
Deputy Director at Texas Organizing Project



Brittany M. White

Live Free Organizer at **Faith in Texas**

Address 1111 W Mockingbird Ln Ste 595, Dallas, TX 75247

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Email BWhite@faithintx.org

Website www.faithintx.org

Get your own  **email signature**