

Legal Aid Client/Family Member Quotes

November 24, 2020

Tanaile Jones

Scary. I think it's tremendously scary and I'm already suffering from immune deficiencies. This is just another thing that I have to worry about along with what I am already stricken with. I worry about when and if I get sick how I will be able to recover. I've been positive since 2005 and although I take medications my body has dealt with wear and tear. This is another scary thing.

The masks are not a rule although they are giving them out. It is not mandatory that it goes on. Visitors must wear masks and inmates must wear masks on visits but it's not mandatory in the facility.

The people that I know that are positive in the jail, who are HIV positive, are scared. People with normal immune systems are fearful too. I have such a short time left to go home and it's like oh my god what if something happens to me while I'm here.

It's scary and this is not something that is going to blow over quickly. There are people like me who are disturbed and worried. Who have cases like mine. Let us be out and let us take care of ourselves on our own terms. We have other things to worry about. There are all kinds of threats in here. Fights happen. This [COVID] is not something that can be controlled. It's here and it's uncontrollable and undeniable. Let us take care of ourselves on our own terms. Don't let DOCCS mishandle us. They don't take this seriously. They are not compassionate and they don't take us seriously.

JP

LAS: What are your greatest concerns regarding continued incarceration at Fishkill?"

JP: "Dying of COVID".

LAS: What are you looking forward to most ?

JP: "Being home with my family, my girlfriend, my support network, seeing my real doctor. Being able to attend my drug treatment program again. Being able to spend the holiday with my mom and my girlfriend. Getting back to my everyday life. And being given another chance at life."

Richard Ramos

“My parents are a wreck.”

“They just heard a news story from Texas where inmates were granted parole, and then three of them died from COVID before they were released. They can't sleep.”=

“They're not doing any of their normal activities with fear I'll die before I get home.”

“My father has arrhythmia heart condition, and has been hospitalized twice in last weeks because of the stress my still being in is causing him.”

“I'm still foggy from covid, not the same.”