

4/23/2020

SurveyMonkey Analyze - MEETINGS OF COOK COUNTY AND FOREST PRESERVE BOARDS THU 4/23/2020 REMOTE MEETING VI...



Written Statement? You can type or copy/paste any written statement you want included enough space, or you have other attachments for distribution, please email them to cook

Dear Commissioners

I am writing to ask for your urgent action to protect public health, and to save the lives of detainees an Detention Center (JTDC) and the Cook County Jail.

It is the responsibility of the Cook County Board of Commissioners to exercise oversight of JTDC and the Lurge you to make sure that the County Board closely monitors the situation at both locations, and take

- that the County maintains conditions that will minimize the spread of the virus,
- that the County provides adequate treatment to detainees who contract the virus, and
- that the County provides the public with full and accurate information about the situation in the Jail (

I hope in particular this week that the County Board will fully examine what is happening at JTDC with $^{\circ}$

- calls for immediate release of youth who are charged with non-violent and low-level offenses
- current conditions experienced by the youth and staff at JTDC, and the increasing risk of infection any youth currently tested positive at JTDC, and 80 more youth were tested this week)
- providing more widespread testing for youth and staff
- providing ample supplies (cleaning, hand sanitizer, masks and gloves) and ensuring guidelines are foll distancing that are required to prevent mass transmission of the virus

The County Board should also consider agreeing to allow court-appointed independent monitors into J conditions.

Thank you for your time and urgent action to protect public health and help save lives.

Sincerely,

Rev. Colleen Vahey, Minister, Third Unitarian Church of Chicago

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