

## Q1

Please provide some basic information

- Witness Name: Rev. Alan Taylor
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- Organization (if any): Unity Temple Unitarian Universalist Congregation
  - City/Town: Oak Park
  - State: IL
  - ZIP: 60301

## Q2

Tell us which meeting you wish to be recorded as a witness. If you don't know the meeting or date, we can help at 312.603.6398 or [cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov). You can also look up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar. Please fill out a separate form for each meeting at which you wish to speak.

- County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting 4/23/2020 10a

## Q3

Tell us the File ID number (example 17-0000) of the item on which you are registering your position. If you don't know the number, we can help at 312.603.6398 or [cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov). You can also look it up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar

COVID-19 in Cook County Jail

## Q4

What do you want to do?

- PROVIDE WRITTEN COMMENT FOR INFORMATION ONLY

## Q5

Written Statement? You can type or copy/paste any written statement you want included in the meeting record here. If this is not enough space, or you have other attachments for distribution, please email them to [cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov)

Lives are at risk in detention and in jail. With the spread of coronavirus, choosing to disregard the national guidelines of social distancing contributes to the well-documented lethal conditions of incarceration. The government can and should release all people from ICE detention immediately and all people from jail who are in for non-violent offenses. The COVID-19 pandemic is a challenge for everyone, but especially for those locked up in prisons and jails. Social distancing does not exist in these spaces, and the outcome is a public health disaster that affects us all, physically and ethically. Chicago's Cook County Jail is an example, as an epicenter of the outbreak, with the highest infection rate in the United States, with over 500 infected, 3 deaths, and two-thirds are people locked up. Please, for the sake of human life both within and outside the prisons, at the very least, release all those who are incarcerated for non-violent offenses.

Rev. Alan Taylor, Unity Temple Unitarian Universalist Congregation