

In April 2020, several medically vulnerable detained immigrants at Irwin County Detention Center and Stewart Detention Center, represented by Asian Americans Advancing Justice-Atlanta, the Southern Poverty Law Center, and Kilpatrick Townsend filed a petition for habeas corpus and complaint for injunctive relief in the Middle District of Georgia, alleging that their detention was unconstitutional because it exposed them to an unreasonable and potentially deadly risk of contracting COVID-19. The petition included allegations about the individuals’ underlying health conditions, unmet medical needs, and experiences begging for medical treatment, as well as the jails’ failure to address the risk of mass transmission. During the litigation, other detained individuals also agreed to testify about similar experiences with poor medical care and ICE’s failures to protect them from COVID-19. The following are the petitioners’ and other individuals’ experiences at Irwin from April – July 2020 in their own words.

PETITIONERS ARE AT HIGH RISK FOR SEVERE ILLNESS FROM COVID-19 AND THEIR MEDICAL NEEDS GO UNMET AT IRWIN

Ansumana Jammeh (diagnosed with diabetes requiring insulin, regular blood pressure checks, and a special diet):

M... .. H... .. I... .. I... .. T... .. I... .. L... ..

S... .. I... .. D... .. I... .. I... .. M... .. A... ..

Nilson Fernando Barahona Marriaga (diagnosed with diabetes requiring diet and exercise, and hypertension):

T... .. I... .. I... .. I... ..

Shelley Dingus (diagnosed with asthma requiring albuterol inhaler two times per day, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (“COPD”), eczema, migraines, history of hysterectomy requiring hormone replacement): Full range of medications are not consistently available. A... .. I... .. I... .. I... .. S... .. A... ..

Sonia Cabrera Benitez (diagnosed with asthma, breast tumor biopsied in detention): I... .. I... .. I... .. I... .. I... .. I... ..

... A

