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Mailing this to someone inside? Print one side only, black ink, plain white paper. No staples or clips. Put their full name and number on the envelope. Some facilities limit pages per envelope: check their mail rules first.

FEDERAL PRISON GUIDE

VISIT PACKET: FDC HONOLULU

Federal Detention Center · Honolulu, HI · Phone 808-838-4200

VISIT CARD · CUT OUT AND KEEP IN THE CAR

WHEN
Saturday through Thursday.
The BOP posts no newer social visiting rules for Honolulu.[1]

HOURS
7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Visitors are not processed before 6:30 a.m.[1]

WHO CAN COME
3 visitors
Only 3 visitors per inmate at a time, unless the Associate Warden (Programs) approves more.[1]

BRING
Photo ID
Any visitor over 18 needs a valid, current state or federal photo ID (driver's license or passport).[1]

CALL FIRST
808-838-4200
Call before you drive, every time.

THE BOP'S OWN PAPERS DISAGREE. Honolulu's handbook is old (updated **May 2, 2022**) and describes COVID-19 rules: **non-contact** visits behind plastic shields, masks, symptom screening and vending machines off limits. The BOP's newer legal visit sheet (August 2026) lists different "normal visiting hours" for walk-in **legal** visits: weekends and federal holidays 6:15 a.m. to 8:45 p.m.; Monday, Tuesday and Friday 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday 7:00 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. The handbook says legal visits are 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. We cannot tell from the BOP's papers whether the 2022 COVID rules still apply to family visits. **Call the prison at 808-838-4200 before you travel**, and ask your loved one for their unit's day and time.[1]

BEFORE YOU GO: GET ON THE LIST

1. When they arrive, your loved one gives their counselor a list of people they want as visitors. Each person fills out a **Visitor Request form**. Your loved one mails it to you. You return it to their unit staff.
2. Staff screen the visitors. Their counselor tells them approved or denied. **They** tell you. Do not travel until you are approved.
3. Cadre inmates may visit with immediate family, other relatives and friends they knew before prison. The Warden can approve an exception.
4. For pretrial, holdover and immigration detainees, visits are ordinarily limited to **immediate family**: mother, father, step-parents, foster parents, brothers, sisters, spouse, prior relationships that produced children, children and step-children. Visitors for people held for the State of Hawaii are limited to immediate family too.
5. Ordinarily a total of **10 visitors** may be on a list. Immediate family with a different last name must show proof of the relationship.
6. Special visits for family emergencies can be approved by the unit manager, no more than one every 90 days.
7. Attorneys: only non-local attorneys traveling from outside the island of Oahu can book legal visits in advance. Requests go by email to HON-UnitManagement-S@bop.gov at least 48 hours ahead. Walk-in legal visits are first come, first served. Legal visitors cannot enter from 1:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. or from the 3:30 p.m. count until it clears.[1]

AT THE DOOR

CONTACT	The 2022 handbook says there is **no physical contact of any kind**, including no embrace at the start or end of the visit, and no photographs. Visitors and inmates must wear face coverings (no neck gaiters or masks with valves). These are COVID-19 rules; check whether they still apply.[1]
SCREENING	Everyone must clear the metal detector. A hand-held detector may be used, and a visitor who cannot clear it may be pat searched. All carry-in items are searched. Visitors sign a Title 18 statement; refuse it and you are refused entry. Visitors were also symptom screened and had their temperature checked (2022).[1]
WHAT YOU CAN CARRY	Visitors with infants may bring two diapers, one pacifier, one sealed bottle with contents and one blanket. No food, gifts, games, needlework, pocket books, baby strollers or packages. Any item that cannot be searched thoroughly is not allowed. Staff will not store items. Vending machines were off limits (2022).[1]
WHAT NOT TO WEAR	No fish-net stockings, mini-skirts, or skirts shorter than the top of the knee. No spandex, see-through or revealing clothes. No shorts (children under 12 excepted), culottes, low-cut tops, tube or tank tops, backless or sleeveless tops, or tops that show the midriff. No swim suits or sweat suits. Dresses no shorter than the natural break at the back of the knee, slits included. No hats or scarves except religious headgear, no sunglasses, long hair picks or flowers. No flip-flops or slippers: closed-toe shoes only. No clothing like inmate khaki or green uniforms. Undergarments required.[1]
NOT ALLOWED IN	Visitors may not bring anything to give to an inmate. No smoking.[1]
LEGAL VISITS (AUGUST 2026 SHEET)	Walk-in legal visits are first come, first served during normal visiting hours: weekends and federal holidays 6:15 a.m. to 8:45 p.m.; Monday, Tuesday and Friday 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday 7:00 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Legal visitors cannot enter from 1:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. or from the 3:30 p.m. count until it clears. Attorneys show a bar card to the front lobby staff and follow the dress code.[2]
WHEN IT GETS CROWDED	Visits of local visitors end first, in order of arrival.[1]

ALL VISITING DAYS AND HOURS

WHERE	DAYS	HOURS
Social visits (2022 COVID-era schedule)	Saturday through Thursday. Each housing unit has its own day and time. The unit you are in decides your exact date.	7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Visit blocks	One hour each: 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Five blocks
Legal visits (handbook)	Monday through Friday. Closed Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays.	8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Visitors are not processed before 6:30 a.m. or after 5:00 p.m. The handbook also says processing stops 30 minutes before visiting hours end. Visits are limited to one hour.[1]

The BOP posts no newer social visiting rules for Honolulu. The only schedule is in the 2022 handbook, written during COVID-19. It also says the schedule can change for emergencies, and that visiting hours vary by housing unit and are posted on the unit bulletin boards.

GETTING THERE

Address	FDC Honolulu, 351 Elliott Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96819. Telephone 808-838-4200. Park only in the established parking areas in the lot.
Getting there	The 2022 handbook says several taxi companies and "The Bus" serve the prison. It lists The Bus at 808-848-5555. Check current numbers before you go.

WHAT TO WEAR TO A VISIT

The BOP beats to its own drum. The front desk has the final say. Keep a spare outfit in the car.

MAIL AND THE MAILING ADDRESS

Your full name
Your street address
City, State ZIP

STAMP

Their committed name, exactly as the BOP Inmate Locator shows it
Reg. No. _____-___
FDC Honolulu
P.O. Box 30080
Honolulu, HI 96820

The envelope, filled in. Their name and number must match the BOP Inmate Locator exactly.[1]

Mail to them goes to **FDC Honolulu, committed name and register number, Federal Detention Center, P.O. Box 30080, Honolulu, Hawaii 96820**. All incoming mail must come through the U.S. Post Office, letters and packages both.[1]

> **USE THE P.O. BOX ONLY.** Never mail to the street address.

THE MAIL RULES

MAIL DAYS	Mail is delivered Monday through Friday, before or after the 4 p.m. count. No delivery on Saturdays, Sundays or federal holidays. Incoming mail is opened and inspected.[1]
WHITE PAPER	Incoming letters must be on white paper in white envelopes. Anything else (colored paper, card stock, crayon or marker drawings) is stamped with the date and photocopied. Honolulu throws away the originals after 30 days.[1]
CARDS	All homemade and store-bought greeting cards are photocopied. The originals are thrown away after 30 days.[1]
PERFUME	Mail sprayed with fragrance, or soiled with substances such as perfume or cologne, is rejected.[1]
BOOKS	Hard cover books come straight from the publisher, a bookstore or a book club, and the package must be marked "Books" or Media Mail. The handbook is not consistent about soft-cover books: one line says publisher, bookstore or book club, another says publisher or book club only. Only five books or magazines in one mailing. Newspapers by subscription only.[1]
STAMPS	Postage stamps cannot be received in the mail. They are bought at the commissary.[1]
LEGAL MAIL	Opened only in front of them. The front must say "Special Mail or Legal Mail - Open Only in the Presence of the Inmate" or similar. The envelope is photocopied and the original thrown away after 30 days.[1]
THEIR LETTERS TO YOU	Regular outgoing mail may not be sealed.[1]

Sources

1. FDC Honolulu Admission and Orientation Handbook (updated May 2, 2022) bop.gov/locations/institutions/hon/hon_ao-handbook.pdf
2. FDC Honolulu In-Person Legal Visit Request sheet (PDF dated August 2026) bop.gov/locations/institutions/hon/legal_visit.pdf