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FEDERAL PRISON GUIDE

VISIT PACKET: FDC MIAMI

Federal Detention Center · Miami, FL · Phone 305-577-0010

VISITING

VISITING HOURS AND DAYS

WHO	DAYS	HOURS
5-East	Saturday 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; Tuesday 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (1 hour)	
5-West	Sunday 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; Tuesday 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (2 hours); Friday 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (2 hours)	
6-Unit (work cadre)	6-West Saturday 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (1 hour); 6-East Sunday 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (1 hour); Tuesday 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (4 hours); Wednesday 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (2 hours); Friday 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (2 hours); no visits Monday and Thursday	
7-East	Sunday 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.; Thursday 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (1 hour)	
7-West	Monday 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; Saturday 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. (1 hour)	
8-East	Thursday 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.; Sunday 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (1 hour)	
8-West	Monday 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.; Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (1 hour)	
9-East	Sunday 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.; Friday 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. (1 hour)	
9-West	Tuesday 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.; Saturday 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. (1 hour)	
10-East	Thursday 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Sunday 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. (1 hour)	
10-West	Wednesday 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; Saturday 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. (1 hour)	
11-East	Sunday 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; Friday 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. (1 hour)	
11-West	Tuesday 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.; Saturday 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (1 hour)	
Special Housing Unit (SHU)	Mondays only, for 1 hour. No weekend visits. Minors are not allowed if the visit is held in the SHU.	7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. or 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Visiting depends on the unit your loved one is in. The visiting room is open 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., but each unit has its own days and times, listed above. Processing starts 30 minutes before each visiting session. Monday 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Wednesday 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. are for legal visits only.

Ask your loved one which unit they are in before you plan a trip. The schedule above is from the September 18, 2023 rules. [1]

The BOP's own papers disagree. The visiting rules (September 18, 2023) say **2 visitors** at a time in the main text, but the visitor sheet in the same rules (Attachment A) says **3 visitors**. Both say 4 hours of social visits a month. The main text also says "Unit B" gets no point charges, while the visitor sheet says Unit 6 (the work cadre). Call (305) 577-0010 before you drive.

THE RULES AT THE DOOR: ID, POINTS, WHAT YOU CAN BRING

HOW MANY VISITS	Each inmate gets **4 hours of social visiting a month**. One hour of visiting is allowed each visiting day, and only one social visit a day. The visit time starts when the inmate reaches the visiting room. Once a visit starts, no other visitors are let in. The work cadre (Unit 6) is not charged points. [1]
HOW MANY PEOPLE	**2 visitors** at a time (the visitor sheet says 3). A baby or toddler aged 3 or younger who is held the whole time does not count. A visitor can see one inmate at a time unless they are immediate family with approval. [1]
ID	Everyone **16 or older** needs valid government ID. Everyone must clear a walk-through or hand-held metal detector. [1]
MONEY FOR VENDING MACHINES	No bills larger than $5.00, and no more than **$25.00** in all. Vending machines are in the visiting room. Food and drinks are not allowed in the front lobby. [1]
WHAT YOU CAN CARRY	A small clear purse, the money above, and medicine limited to what is needed for the visit. For a baby: 2 diapers, wipes, 1 change of clothes, 2 baby bottles with contents, 2 small sealed clear containers of baby food (no glass), and 1 receiving blanket. No cups. [1]
NOT ALLOWED IN	Strollers, carriers, diaper bags, large bags (even clear ones), book bags, food, yellow highlighter markers, newspapers, magazines, cameras, cell phones and any electronic or recording device. [1]
WHAT TO WEAR	Shoes are required (except infants). No shorts of any length (children up to age 7 excepted). No sleeveless clothing (children up to age 7 excepted). No sweatpants, sweatshirts, sun dresses, leotards, wrap-around skirts, crop tops, low-cut or zippered tops, halter tops, bathing suits or backless tops. No hats, caps, headbands, head scarves, hooded garments, wigs, hairpieces or sunglasses. No spandex, tights, clothing with revealing holes, extra outer garments, overcoats or jackets. Nothing like inmate or staff clothing (khaki, orange, green military fatigue, pink, yellow, gray, plain white T-shirts, medical scrubs or any uniform). Nothing see-through. Underwear and bras are required. [1]
CONTACT	An embrace and a kiss when you enter and when you leave. Any other contact can end the visit. [1]

SPECIAL VISITS	Only the Warden, an Associate Warden or the Institution Duty Officer can approve one. A visitor who lives more than 250 miles away or in another country may be approved for two separate two-hour visits in the same week, once every 90 days. Visitors in Florida must show a hardship such as a medical condition or a death in the family. [1]
WHEN IT GETS CROWDED	The visiting room holds no more than 270 people. If it fills, staff may end visits starting with the first arrivals. [1]
TRANSPORTATION	FDC Miami has no pay phones. You must arrange your own transportation. There are several public parking lots within walking distance for a small charge. [1]

HOW TO GET ON THE VISITING LIST

1. When they arrive, your loved one gets a Request for Visitor Approval form and, if more background is needed, a Visitor Information Sheet (BP-629). They mail them to you.
2. You complete the forms and send them back to their Unit Team. Staff do not accept forms that are incomplete.
3. The Unit Team normally sets up the list within 7 days of getting all the information. **It is their job to tell you** if you are approved.
4. Pretrial and holdover inmates may list **immediate family only**: parents, brothers, sisters, children and legal spouse. People with a different last name need proof of the relationship. Anyone with a criminal record needs written approval from the Warden.
5. Florida does not recognize common-law marriage. FDC Miami may consider a significant other or the parent of their children case by case, with papers such as a joint bank account, a deed or a birth certificate.
6. The work cadre can list up to **12 visitors**. The list can be changed only once every 90 days, and the first list cannot be changed for 90 days.
7. Children under 18 do not have to be on the list, but can visit only with an approved adult.

Fill out the visiting form for Miami

[1]

DRIVING DIRECTIONS (FROM THE BOP)

FROM HIGHWAY 836	Stay on 836 East, pass the toll plaza, and continue straight when I-95 splits off. 836 East turns into 395 toward the Beaches. Take 395 to the very first left exit (2nd Avenue), passing the 95 exit. Make a right at the bottom of the ramp onto NE 2nd Avenue. Make a right on NE 6th Street, go two blocks, then left onto N. Miami Avenue. The institution is on the corner of N. Miami Avenue and 4th Street.
BY BUS	Greyhound has a bus station at 700 Biscayne Blvd., Miami. Telephone 305-374-7222.

Street address for your GPS: 33 Ne 4th Street, Miami, Fl 33132. [2]

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.

FDC MIAMI

Rules dated **September 18, 2023** (3 years old)

Official rules (PDF) (bop.gov/locations/institutions/mim/mim_visit.pdf) No Spanish version posted

3 years old. Ask your loved one to check the copy posted in the unit before you drive.

Skirts and dresses	Not in the written rules.
Shorts	No shorts, except children up to age 7.
Colors to avoid	No khaki clothing. No green military type clothing. No orange clothing. No gray clothing (attachment list). Nothing like inmate/staff clothing, incl. plain white, pink, yellow, gray.
Leggings, spandex	No leotards, spandex pants, or tights. No tight, sexually suggestive clothing.
Bras and metal	Brassieres are required.
Camouflage, military	No military fatigues, security, or law enforcement uniforms.
Shoes	Not in the written rules.
Children	Children up to age 7 may wear shorts and sleeveless; infants barefoot.

ALL 30 RULES, IN THE BOP'S OWN WORDS

LENGTH AND FIT

- No shorts, except children up to age 7.
  BOP wording: "a. Shorts (except for children up to age 7)"
- No sleeveless garments, except children up to age 7.
  BOP wording: "b. Sleeveless garments (except for children up to age 7)"
- No low-cut blouses or low cut dresses.
  BOP wording: "around skirts, crop tops, low-cut blouses, zippered"
- No crop tops.
  BOP wording: "around skirts, crop tops, low-cut blouses, zippered"
- No halter tops, tube tops, or backless tops.
  BOP wording: "d. Halter tops, tube tops, bath suits or backless tops"
- No see-through garments.
  BOP wording: "garment that is see through."
- No tight, sexually suggestive clothing.
  BOP wording: "Clothing that is tight and sexually suggestive or revealing."
- No leotards, spandex pants, or tights.
  BOP wording: "f. Spandex pants, Tights or clothing with revealing holes"
- No clothing with revealing holes.
  BOP wording: "f. Spandex pants, Tights or clothing with revealing holes"

- No bathing suits.
  BOP wording: "d. Halter tops, tube tops, bath suits or backless tops"
- No sweat pants or sweat shirts.
  BOP wording: "c. Sweat pants, sweat shirts, sun dresses, leotards, wrap"

COLORS AND UNIFORMS

- No khaki clothing.
  BOP wording: "khaki, orange or green military type clothing."
- No green military type clothing.
  BOP wording: "khaki, orange or green military type clothing."
- No orange clothing.
  BOP wording: "khaki, orange or green military type clothing."
- No gray clothing (attachment list).
  BOP wording: "military fatigue, pink, yellow, gray and plain white t shirts) or staff uniforms or"
- Nothing like inmate/staff clothing, incl. plain white, pink, yellow, gray.
  BOP wording: "h. Any clothing similar to that issued to inmates or staff uniforms including plain white T-shirts."
- No military fatigues, security, or law enforcement uniforms.
  BOP wording: "ANY OTHER UNIFORM (medical scrubs, security uniforms with emblems, other law enforcement type uniform,"

BRAS, UNDERWEAR AND METAL

- Brassieres are required.
  BOP wording: "Brassieres are required."
- Undergarments and brassieres are required.
  BOP wording: "Under garments and brassieres are required."

HATS, HOODS AND COATS

- No hats, caps, headbands, or head scarves.
  BOP wording: "e. Hats, caps, headbands, head scarfs, hooded garments,"
- No hooded garments.
  BOP wording: "e. Hats, caps, headbands, head scarfs, hooded garments,"
- No extra clothing, coats, overcoats, jackets, or windbreakers.
  BOP wording: "g. No extra clothing or outer garments, coats, overcoats, jackets, or windbreakers"
- No wigs or hairpieces.
  BOP wording: "wigs, hairpieces, and sunglasses"

CHILDREN

- Children up to age 7 may wear shorts and sleeveless; infants barefoot.
  BOP wording: "a. Shorts (except for children up to age 7)"

EVERYTHING ELSE

- No sun dresses, wrap skirts, zippered or button-down dresses/skirts.
  BOP wording: "sun dresses, leotards, wrap around skirts, crop tops, low-cut blouses, zippered dresses/shirts, button down skirts or dresses"
- No sunglasses.

BOP wording: "wigs, hairpieces, and sunglasses"

- No sexually suggestive or revealing clothing.
  BOP wording: "i. Clothing that is sexually suggestive, revealing or any type of"
- Shoes required; no bare feet except infants.
  BOP wording: "No bare feet will be allowed except for infants."
- No costumes of any type.
  BOP wording: "costumes of any type."

IF THEY SAY NO

- Operations Lieutenant or Duty Officer decides suitability; staff can ban other items.
  BOP wording: "This official will be responsible in determining, if the attire is suitable for visitation."

MAIL AND THE MAILING ADDRESS

Use their committed name exactly as the BOP Inmate Locator shows it. The name and number below are examples (JOHN ANTHONY SMITH-JONES, 12345-678).

JOHN ANTHONY SMITH-JONES
Reg. No. 12345-678
FDC Miami
P.O. Box 019120
Miami, Fl 33101

The handbook says to address mail: **committed name and register number, Federal Detention Center Miami, P.O. Box 019120, Miami, FL 33101-9120**. Use their committed name, no nicknames. A hyphenated last name must show both names. [2]

Use the P.O. Box only. Never mail to the street address (33 Ne 4th Street, Miami, Fl 33132).

PAPER AND ENVELOPES	The detention center provides writing paper, envelopes, pens, pencils and unsigned greeting cards. They **may not be obtained from outside sources**. [2]
STAMPS	Stamps cannot be received by mail. They buy them in the commissary and may not have more than 60 first-class stamps. [2]
OUTGOING MAIL	Work cadre, holdover and pretrial inmates must put their general mail in the unit box unsealed. [2]
PHOTOS	Personal photos are ordinarily approved, but Polaroid photos are not kept. Nude or sexually suggestive photos may be refused. [2]
MONEY	Send money orders to the BOP lockbox: Federal Bureau of Prisons, their committed name and eight-digit register number, Post Office Box 474701, Des Moines, Iowa 50947-0001. [2]

Books and magazines: at a administrative security prison, books and magazines must come straight from a publisher, book club or bookstore (Amazon, for example), never from home.

Sources

1. MIM 5267.09B, Visiting Regulations (September 18, 2023) bop.gov/locations/institutions/mim/mim_visit.pdf
2. FDC Miami Admission and Orientation Handbook (updated March 2022) bop.gov/locations/institutions/mim/mim_ao-handbook.pdf