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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 SEATAC

Federal Detention Center · Seattle, WA · Phone 206-870-5700

VISITING

VISITING HOURS AND DAYS

WHO	DAYS	HOURS
Social visits (all inmates)	Saturday and Sunday	7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Social visits (all inmates)	Monday and Friday	2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Federal holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, July 4, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day	Special visiting for all inmates	7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Special Housing Unit (SHU)	Non-contact, by live video. At most 6 visitors, 1 hour.	Same social visiting hours
Lawyer visits	Monday and Friday 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; Tuesday to Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Saturday, Sunday and holidays 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.	See days

Processing of visitors starts 30 minutes before visiting hours and is suspended 45 minutes before each official count. The visiting rules say processing ends one and a half hours before visiting ends. The handbook says one hour. Each visit is 2 hours, one visit a day, and the 2 hours start when they reach the visiting room.

The visiting rules say there is no social visiting on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. [1]

The BOP's own papers disagree. SeaTac's two papers disagree. The visiting rules (**February 21, 2024**) allow social visits on **Sunday, Monday, Friday and Saturday**. The handbook (**May 11, 2023**) lists social visits on **Saturday and Sunday only** and says "no social visiting" Monday to Friday. The handbook also says visitor processing ends one hour before visiting ends (rules: one and a half hours). The newer rules are more likely to be right, but **call the prison at 206-870-5700 before you drive**.

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

WHICH DAYS THEY CAN HAVE VISITORS	Pretrial, holdover and ICE inmates visit on **odd or even calendar days**, set by the **fifth number of their register number**. Odd means odd days, even means even days. The rules' example: register number 01234-086 visits on even days such as May 2; 12461-086 visits on odd days such as May 15. Designated inmates (serving their sentence here) may visit on any social visiting day. [1]
HOW MANY PEOPLE	No more than **6 visitors at one time**, adults and children together. One visit per day, 2 hours. [1]
WHO CAN BE ON THE LIST	Pretrial and holdover inmates: **immediate family only** (mother, father, stepparents, foster parents, brothers, sisters, spouse, children and registered domestic partners). Designated inmates: immediate family plus up to **10 other relatives or friends**, who must have known them before prison unless an exception is approved. A visitor can be on only one inmate's list, unless they are the same family. [1]
ID	Everyone **16 or older** needs valid state or government photo ID showing their full name and signature. An expired license is not valid. **Every child, of any age, must be on the approved list** and must come with an approved adult. [1]
SCREENING	Everyone must clear the walk-through metal detector. Avoid metal on clothing, including underwear. A visitor who refuses a search is turned away. [1]
WHAT YOU CAN CARRY	Only your ID and your wallet, purse and money. Everything else is locked in your car or in a locker in the front lobby. Only medicine needed to save your life (an asthma inhaler or heart pills, for example) may go in, and only the amount needed for the visit. [1]
FOR A BABY	One pacifier, one diaper, five wipes in a clear zip bag (up to one gallon), one clear bottle or sippy cup with contents, and one infant blanket. No toys of any kind. Breast feeding is allowed in a screened area. [1]
WHAT NOT TO WEAR	No halter, tank or tube tops; open-toe or open-heel shoes; sandals; white, brown or orange t-shirts; sleeveless shirts; spandex; plunging or low-cut tops; shorts; jogging or sweat suits; skirts or dresses shorter than 2 inches above the knee; see-through clothing; clothing with offensive words or logos; hats or hoods; **khaki**; coats, jackets, gloves or scarves; baggy or sagging clothes; torn jeans. [1]
TOUCHING	A handshake, a hug and one closed-mouth kiss at the start and end of the visit. No hand holding. They may hold children aged 3 and under. Visitors sit across from them. [1]
WHAT THEY WEAR	Prison-issued clothing only. One plain wedding band, prescription glasses and one religious neck chain are allowed. They are pat searched going in and strip searched coming out. [1]
WHEN IT GETS CROWDED	The visiting room holds **125** people (visitors and inmates). When it is full, visits are ended starting with the visitors who have been there longest that day. [1]
COUNTS	During an official count, visitors cannot enter or leave the visiting room. [1]
CHILDREN	A children's room is for children under 16. Parents must watch their children at all times. Children may never be left alone in the building or on the grounds. [1]

HOW TO GET ON THE VISITING LIST

1. Your loved one asks their **unit counselor** for the **Visiting Information form (BP-A629.52)**. It is also online at bop.gov.
2. They mail it to you. You fill it in and sign it. Send it back **by mail** to their counselor with **a copy of your photo ID** and **proof of how you are related**. The handbook says forms sent by email are not processed.
3. The counselor runs a background check. A visitor with a criminal record is reviewed by the Unit Manager and the Associate Warden, which can take several days.
4. The counselor tells **them** within about 7 days. **They** must tell you. SeaTac does not send you a notice. Do not drive until you know you are approved.
5. A person who is turned down gets a written "Notice of Denial for Proposed Visitor Applicant." The counselor cannot say why when the reason is a background check.
6. They can ask to change the list **once a month**.

Fill out the visiting form for SeaTac

[1]

DRIVING DIRECTIONS (FROM THE BOP)

BY CAR	FDC SeaTac is at 2425 South 200th Street, SeaTac, Washington 98198, on the corner of 200th Street and 26th Avenue South. It is about 1 block west of Pacific Coast Highway (Highway 99) and 2 miles south of SeaTac International Airport. The exit from Highway 5 is 200th Street, Exit 151.
TAXI	Orange Cab 206-522-8800. Yellow Cab 253-872-5600. Shuttle Express 425-981-7000. (From the 2024 visiting rules.)

Street address for your GPS: 2425 South 200th Street, Seattle, Wa 98198. [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 SEATAC

Rules dated **February 21, 2024** (2 years old)

Official rules (PDF)(bop.gov/locations/institutions/set/set_visit.pdf) En español (PDF)(bop.gov/locations/institutions/set/set_visit_sp.pdf)

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

Skirts and dresses	Skirts/dresses no more than 2 inches above the knee.
Shorts	No shorts.
Colors to avoid	No khaki-colored clothing. No orange t-shirts. No white or brown t-shirts.
Leggings, spandex	No spandex garments. No form-fitting clothing.
Bras and metal	Avoid excessive metal on clothing, including underwear.
Camouflage, military	Not in the written rules. Many prisons ban both; leave them home.
Shoes	No open-toe or open-heel shoes. No sandals.
Children	Rules apply to all visitors regardless of age.

ALL 24 RULES, IN THE BOP'S OWN WORDS

LENGTH AND FIT

- Skirts/dresses no more than 2 inches above the knee.
  BOP wording: "Skirts or dresses shorter than 2 inches above the knee"
- No shorts.
  BOP wording: "low cut tops, shorts, jogging or sweat suits,"
- No tank tops or sleeveless shirts.
  BOP wording: "white, brown or orange t-shirts, sleeveless shirts, spandex garments"
- No plunging necklines or low-cut tops.
  BOP wording: "Shirts/blouses with plunging necklines"
- No halter or tube tops.
  BOP wording: "Halter, tank, or tube tops"
- No transparent or see-through clothing.
  BOP wording: "Suggestive/revealing or transparent-see through clothing"
- No form-fitting clothing.
  BOP wording: "sleeveless shirts, spandex garments or form fitting"
- No spandex garments.
  BOP wording: "sleeveless shirts, spandex garments or form fitting"
- No torn jeans or jeans with tattered holes.
  BOP wording: "jeans torn or w/tattered holes."

- No jogging or sweat suits.
  BOP wording: "Jogging or sweat suits"

COLORS AND UNIFORMS

- No khaki-colored clothing.
  BOP wording: "Khaki colored clothing"
- No orange t-shirts.
  BOP wording: "White, brown, or orange t-shirts"
- No white or brown t-shirts.
  BOP wording: "White, brown, or orange t-shirts"

BRAS, UNDERWEAR AND METAL

- Avoid excessive metal on clothing, including underwear.
  BOP wording: "refrain from wearing excessive metal items on their clothing"

SHOES

- No open-toe or open-heel shoes.
  BOP wording: "Open toe or open heel shoes"
- No sandals.
  BOP wording: "open toe or heel shoes; sandals;"

HATS, HOODS AND COATS

- No hats or caps.
  BOP wording: "Hats, caps or shirts with hoods"
- No hoods or shirts with hoods.
  BOP wording: "Hats, caps or shirts with hoods"
- No coats, jackets, gloves, scarves or other outdoor apparel.
  BOP wording: "Coats, jackets, gloves or scarves (any type of outdoor apparel)"

CHILDREN

- Rules apply to all visitors regardless of age.
  BOP wording: "All visitors, regardless _of age, will have to abide by these rules."

EVERYTHING ELSE

- No offensive wording, signs or logos.
  BOP wording: "Clothing w/offensive wording or signs/logos"
- No baggy or sagging clothing.
  BOP wording: "Bagging or sagging clothing"
- No suggestive, provocative or revealing clothing.
  BOP wording: "Any clothing that is suggestive, provocative or reveling is not suitable for the visiting room"

IF THEY SAY NO

- Questionable clothing referred to IDO or Operations Lieutenant.
  BOP wording: "Clothing that is questionable will be brought to the attention of the"

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 SeaTac
P.O. Box 13900
Seattle, Wa 98198

Put their name, register number **and unit** on the envelope. The handbook says incoming mail must show their unit, and outgoing mail without all of it is not mailed. The address is P.O. Box 13900, Seattle, WA 98198. [2]

Use the P.O. Box only. Never mail to the street address (2425 South 200th Street, Seattle, Wa 98198).

OPENED AND COPIED	Letters are opened and checked for money and contraband, and photocopied before they go to the unit. Everything must be on plain white paper and white envelopes. Staff may keep the original and give them a copy. [2]
WHAT IS NOT ALLOWED	Musical cards or cards with glitter, glue, crayon, markers, fold-outs or raised inserts; homemade cards; card stock or construction paper; stains or oily marks; perfume or cologne; stickers; Polaroid photos; nude photos. No more than **10 photos a day**. [2]
BOOKS AND MAGAZINES	Hardcover books, newspapers, paperbacks and magazines only from the publisher, a book club or a bookstore. They may keep no more than **5 publications** at one time. [2]
PACKAGES	No packages without written approval first, on form **BP-331**, which is good for 60 days. SeaTac ordinarily approves only release clothing or legal materials. [2]
MONEY	Never put money, checks or money orders in a letter. SeaTac sends them back. Money goes to the BOP lockbox (see the Money tab). [2]
THEIR LETTERS TO YOU	Outgoing letters are not sealed by them and staff may read them. Legal mail is sealed in front of the unit officer between 5:00 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. [2]
STAMPS	They may keep no more than 1 book of stamps, or the equivalent of 20 stamps. You may not mail them stamps. [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. SET 5267.09c, Visiting Regulations (February 21, 2024) bop.gov/locations/institutions/set/set_visit.pdf
2. FDC SeaTac Admission and Orientation Handbook (dated May 11, 2023) bop.gov/locations/institutions/set/set_ao-handbook.pdf