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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: FCI BEAUMONT LOW

Federal Correctional Institution · Beaumont, TX · Phone 409-727-8172

VISITING

VISITING HOURS AND DAYS

WHO	DAYS	HOURS
Main prison (handbook)	Friday evening, plus Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays that do not fall on a Friday. On Saturdays and Sundays they visit on odd or even dates (see below).	Friday 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.; Saturday, Sunday and holidays 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Main prison (2008 visiting rules)	Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday and federal holidays. Saturdays and Sundays are odd or even dates (see below).	8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Satellite camp (handbook)	Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays	8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Satellite camp (2008 visiting rules)	Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays only	8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Special Housing Unit (2008 rules)	Monday and Friday only, about one hour per person, non-contact by video	Set by staff

Visitors are not allowed into the front lobby before 8:30 a.m. The visiting rules say no visitors are processed after 9:30 a.m. on weekends and holidays (in preparation for the 10:00 a.m. count) and none after 2:00 p.m. (in preparation for the 4:00 p.m. count). Arrive early. If a visitor leaves the visiting room for any reason, the visit is over for the day.

The BOP's two Beaumont papers disagree about the visiting days (see the box below). [1]

The BOP's own papers disagree. The BOP's two Beaumont papers disagree, and both are old. The **visiting rules (BMX 5267.08A) are dated October 9, 2008**. For the Low they say: visits Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday and federal holidays, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and **15 points** a month. The **handbook is undated** (the PDF file was made in October 2013). It says: Friday 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. plus Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and **12 points** a month. The camp's start time also differs (8:30 a.m. in the rules, 8:00 a.m. in the handbook). The handbook looks newer, but **call 409-727-8172 before you drive.**

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

HOW MANY VISITS (HANDBOOK)	Each person gets **12 points a month**. A Friday evening visit (not a holiday) costs **1 point**. On weekends and holidays each session costs **2 points**. A session is, for example, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. A full day from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. costs **4 points**. A visit on a Friday that is a federal holiday costs 2 points. [2]
HOW MANY VISITS (2008 RULES)	The 2008 rules give the Low **15 points a month**, charged 1 point for a weekday visit and 2 points for a weekend or holiday visit. Law enforcement and attorney visits do not count. [1]
ODD AND EVEN WEEKENDS	On Saturdays and Sundays, inmates with an **odd fifth digit** in their register number visit on odd-numbered dates, and inmates with an even fifth digit visit on even-numbered dates. The rules' example: register number 12345-678 has a 5, so odd dates. [1]
HOW MANY PEOPLE	No more than **5 visitors at one time, children included**. An infant who must be carried by an adult does not count. Under 18 needs written consent from a parent or legal guardian. Under 16 must come with a responsible adult. [1]
ID	Everyone **16 or older** needs a state or U.S. government-issued photo ID, such as a passport or driver's license. Without it you do not get in. Everyone also fills out a Notification to Visitor form at the front lobby. [1]
SCREENING	Everyone walks through the **metal detector**. If it goes off, you are checked with a hand-held scanner and given a chance to show the metal object; if you cannot, the visit can be denied. Visitors are also pat searched at random. Staff stamp your hand and check the stamp with a black light when you enter and leave. [1]
MONEY FOR VENDING MACHINES	No more than **$20.00** per person, in $1 and $5 bills and change, in a clear see-through change purse. Only visitors can use the vending machines. Money cannot be left for their account. [1]
WHAT YOU CAN CARRY	A clear change purse, the money, a comb, approved heart medication and jewelry you normally wear. Lockers in the outside administration building hold handbags, shopping bags and packages. Medicine stays in the locker unless it is life-supporting (staff check). No cameras or recorders. [1]
FOR A BABY	Only what an infant needs: 1 sealed package of baby wipes, 5 diapers, 1 sealed formula mix, 2 sealed plastic jars of baby food, 1 empty plastic baby bottle, 1 plastic serving spoon, and 1 small clear plastic tote bag for it all. [1]
NOT ALLOWED IN	Cell phones, cameras, recording devices, drugs, alcohol, weapons. Visitors may not bring them documents or items. [1]
WHAT NOT TO WEAR	No halter tops, sleeveless clothes, see-through clothes, very low-cut or very tight clothes. No skirts or dresses two inches or more above the knee, wrap skirts, or slits above the knee. No shorts, tank tops, hats (religious headwear is allowed), hooded jackets, non-prescription sunglasses, or thong or open-toed shoes. **No khaki or camouflage.** [1]
TOUCHING	Handshaking, embracing and kissing are allowed only at the beginning and end of the visit. [1]

WHEN IT GETS CROWDED	Staff first ask for volunteers to leave. Then visits end based on how often the inmate gets visits, then local visitors (within 100 miles) are asked to end theirs, and last, first in, first out. [1]

HOW TO GET ON THE VISITING LIST

1. Within about 24 hours of arrival, staff explain the visiting rules. Your loved one gives their Unit Team a list of **immediate family** (mother, father, step-parents, foster parents, brothers, sisters, wife, children). The list is usually entered within 7 days.
2. For other relatives, friends and associates, they give you the **Visitor Information Form (BP-S629.052; the rules also call it BP-A629)** and **mail it to you**. You fill it in and send it straight back to their Unit Team.
3. The Unit Team runs an NCIC criminal background check on friends and associates. Immediate family are checked against the pre-sentence report or the probation office. If more is needed, staff use the Request for Conviction Information form (BP-S311.052).
4. The Unit Team tells them who was approved or denied. **They** tell you. Do not drive until you are approved. People who are not on the list are not let in.
5. The list can hold immediate family plus **up to 10 other relatives, friends and associates**, with the Unit Manager's approval. Friends must have known them before prison, unless the Warden approves an exception in writing. Someone under 18 needs a parent or guardian's approval first.
6. To change the list they send an Inmate Request to Staff form to their counselor.
7. On arrival or holdover, only immediate family may visit until a list exists. Staff may check the pre-sentence report.

Fill out the visiting form for Beaumont Low

[1]

DRIVING DIRECTIONS (FROM THE BOP)

ADDRESS (FROM THE VISITING RULES)	Federal Correctional Complex, 5430 Knauth Road, Beaumont, Texas 77705. The BOP's current address for FCI Beaumont Low is 5560 Knauth Road, Beaumont, TX 77705.
FROM INTERSTATE 10 OR U.S. 69 FROM THE NORTH	Take Highway 69 South to the W. Port Arthur Rd. / Florida Ave. & Ave. A exit (a sign says Federal Correctional Complex is the next exit). Follow the service road to the stop sign and turn right onto W. Port Arthur Rd. Follow it about 5 miles and cross one set of railroad tracks. About 50 feet past the tracks, turn right at the sign for the Federal Correctional Complex. Follow the drive to the main entrance and follow the posted signs to each prison.
FROM U.S. 69 FROM THE SOUTH OR JEFFERSON COUNTY AIRPORT	Take Highway 69 North to the same W. Port Arthur Rd. / Florida Ave. & Ave. A exit. At the stop sign turn left onto W. Port Arthur Rd. Follow it about 5 miles and cross one set of railroad tracks. About 50 feet past the tracks, turn right at the sign for the Federal Correctional Complex. Follow the posted signs.
TAXIS (2008 LIST)	A list of local taxi companies is posted in the visitor waiting area. The 2008 rules list them for Beaumont, Nederland, Orange, Port Arthur/Groves and Silsbee, for example Star Cab Co 833-6004 and Square Deal Taxi Co 839-4915. These numbers are 18 years old; call before you rely on them.

Street address for your GPS: 5560 Knauth Road, Beaumont, Tx 77705. [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.

FCI BEAUMONT LOW

Rules dated **October 9, 2008** (18 years old)

Official rules (PDF) (bop.gov/locations/institutions/bml/bml_visit.pdf) En español (PDF) (bop.gov/locations/institutions/bml/bml_visit_sp.pdf)

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

These rules contradict themselves. When two rules disagree, dress by the stricter one.

Skirts and dresses	Skirts/dresses less than two inches above knee; attachment says nothing above knee.
Shorts	No shorts; attachment bans short-shorts above the knee.
Colors to avoid	No khaki colored clothing. No white T-shirts.
Leggings, spandex	Spandex is banned (listed under transparent garments). No extremely tight trousers, skirts, or form-fitting garments.
Bras and metal	No wired bras.
Camouflage, military	No camouflage clothing or fatigues.
Shoes	No thong-type or open-toed shoes of any style. No thong-type shoes.
Children	Not in the written rules.

ALL 27 RULES, IN THE BOP'S OWN WORDS

LENGTH AND FIT

- Skirts/dresses less than two inches above knee; attachment says nothing above knee.
  BOP wording: "skirts or dresses two or more inches above the knees,"
- No shorts; attachment bans short-shorts above the knee.
  BOP wording: "shoes, shorts, tank tops, head wear (with the exception"
- No sleeveless garments, tank tops, or spaghetti-strap dresses.
  BOP wording: "Sleeveless garments (e.g., tank tops, spaghetti strap dresses)"
- No extremely low-cut dresses or blouses.
  BOP wording: "extremely low-cut dresses or blouses,"
- No garments revealing upper torso, such as midriffs.
  BOP wording: "Garments which reveal portions of the upper torso (e.g., halter tops, midriffs)"
- No halter tops.
  BOP wording: "(halter tops, sleeveless garments, transparent or sheer"
- No transparent, sheer, or see-through garments.
  BOP wording: "Transparent garments (e.g., sheer, spandex, see-through)"
- No extremely tight trousers, skirts, or form-fitting garments.
  BOP wording: "Form-fitting garments (e.g., low-riders, hip huggers)"

- Spandex is banned (listed under transparent garments).
  BOP wording: "Transparent garments (e.g., sheer, spandex, see-through)"
- No athletic apparel: warm-ups, sweat pants, sweat shirts, fleece.
  BOP wording: "Athletic apparel (e.g., warm-up suits, sweat pants, sweat shirts, fleece)"

COLORS AND UNIFORMS

- No khaki colored clothing.
  BOP wording: "prescription sunglasses, khaki or camouflage colored clothing."
- No white T-shirts.
  BOP wording: " White T-shirts"*
- No camouflage clothing or fatigues.
  BOP wording: "Fatigues (e.g., camouflage colored)"

BRAS, UNDERWEAR AND METAL

- No wired bras.
  BOP wording: " Wired bras"*
- Jewelry normally worn is allowed.
  BOP wording: "jewelry normally worn are allowed."

SHOES

- No thong-type or open-toed shoes of any style.
  BOP wording: "permitted to wear any style of thong-type/opened toe shoes,"
- No thong-type shoes.
  BOP wording: "permitted to wear any style of thong-type/opened toe shoes,"

HATS, HOODS AND COATS

- No head wear, hats, caps, hoods, or scarves.
  BOP wording: "Head gear (e.g., hats, caps, hoods, scarfs, except religious attire)"
- Religious head attire is allowed.
  BOP wording: "head wear (with the exception of religious attire)"
- No hooded jackets.
  BOP wording: "of religious attire) or hooded jackets, non-"

EVERYTHING ELSE

- No clothing judged derogatory or a security threat.
  BOP wording: "taste, derogatory in nature, or may threaten the security or orderly running of the institution"
- No wrap skirts or slits extending above the knee.
  BOP wording: "wrap skirts, apparel with slits extending above the knee,"
- No sagging trousers or items in poor taste or derogatory.
  BOP wording: "(trousers that sag and drag, etc.) will not be"
- No non-prescription sunglasses.
  BOP wording: "prescription sunglasses, khaki or camouflage colored"
- No medical scrubs.
  BOP wording: " Medical Scrubs"*

IF THEY SAY NO

- Visitors in prohibited clothing will not be permitted to visit.
  BOP wording: "will not be permitted to visit."
- Operations Lieutenant and/or IDO make final call on questionable apparel.
  BOP wording: "THE OPERATIONS LIEUTENANT AND/OR IDO WILL MAKE THE FINAL DECISION REGARDING QUESTIONABLE APPAREL."

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
FCI Beaumont Low
P.O. Box 26020
Beaumont, Tx 77720

The handbook asks senders to put their loved one's committed name, register number **and unit** on the envelope for proper delivery. Use the P.O. Box exactly as shown. [2]

Use the P.O. Box only. Never mail to the street address (5560 Knauth Road, Beaumont, Tx 77705).

MAIL DAYS	First-class mail is handed out Monday through Friday (except holidays) by the evening-shift unit officer. There is no limit on how many letters they receive unless it becomes an unreasonable burden. [2]
PACKAGES	Every package needs approval first (form BP-331), and approvals are only for release clothing and medical items. A package over 16 ounces must be marked "AUTHORIZED BY BUREAU POLICY" on the outside, or it is refused. [2]
BOOKS AND MAGAZINES	At a low-security prison, magazines, softcover books and hardcover books can be sent from domestic addresses. **Newspapers must come directly from a publisher or bookstore.** [2]
THEIR LETTERS TO YOU	At a low-security prison they may seal their letters, and staff may inspect them. Each letter needs a TRULINCS mailing label on the front (for the person they are writing to), and their name, register number, unit and return address in the upper left corner. [2]
MONEY	Never put money in a letter. Money orders go to the BOP lockbox in Des Moines, Iowa (see the Money tab). [2]

Books and magazines: at a low security prison, soft-cover books and magazines can come from anyone. Hardcovers only from a publisher or bookstore.

Sources

1. BMX 5267.08A, Visiting Regulations, FCC Beaumont (October 9, 2008) bop.gov/locations/institutions/bml/bml_visit.pdf
2. FCC Beaumont Admission and Orientation Inmate Handbook (undated; file created October 2013) bop.gov/locations/institutions/bml/bml_ao-handbook.pdf