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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: FMC CARSWELL

Federal Medical Center · Fort Worth, TX · Phone 817-782-4000

VISIT CARD · CUT OUT AND KEEP IN THE CAR

WHEN

Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays

The rules give no regular visiting days except Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays.[1]

HOURS

8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

No visitor may be on the grounds before 8:00 a.m.[1]

VISITS

6 visiting points a month

Each person gets 6 visiting points a month.[1]

WHO CAN COME

5 visitors

No more than 5 visitors at one time.[1]

BRING

16 or older

Everyone 16 or older must show a government photo ID, such as a valid driver's license or state ID.[1]

CALL FIRST

817-782-4000

Call before you drive, every time.

BEFORE YOU GO: GET ON THE LIST

1. Your loved one fills out the **Visiting List** form (Attachment A to the rules) and gives it to their **counselor**. The handbook says to ask for approval at least **three weeks** before the first visit.
2. The unit team normally builds the list within about five days of arrival. Immediate family (mother, father, brothers, sisters, spouse, children) is normally approved. Friends are added only after the unit team has the Visiting List form.
3. A background check (NCIC) is run. A criminal record does not automatically block a visit, but each case needs the **Warden's approval**. A denial is not explained to your loved one.
4. The list usually holds **20 visitors**, including family. No more than **8 of them can be friends** who knew your loved one before prison, unless the Warden makes an exception.
5. Changes use the **Visiting List Request** form (Attachment B). The list is updated once a quarter, usually at their team review.
6. A new arrival or someone on holdover (passing through) with no approved list may be visited only by immediate family. Staff check the relationship through the presentence report. That approval lasts no more than **60 days**.
7. The handbook lists reasons a visitor may be denied: wrong or missing information, no signature on the background-check form, false information, a conviction or jail time in the past five years, probation or parole without the officer's OK, no relationship before prison, or a denial in the past year. Not confirmed: whether all of these still apply, because the handbook (April 2023) is older than the rules (February 2026).[1]

AT THE DOOR

AGES 16 AND 17	A 16 or 17 year old who is not with a parent, guardian or immediate family member who is 18 or older needs that person's **written approval** beforehand, valid government ID, and a place on the approved list.[1]
SCREENING	You, your things and your car can be searched at random. Visitors are subject to random **ION spectrometry** (drug) testing. Refuse the search and you do not get in.[1]
MONEY FOR VENDING MACHINES	A clear plastic change purse, no bigger than 8 by 10 inches, with change for the machines. You may carry **one credit or debit card and no more than $20.00 in cash**. Only visitors may use the machines.[1]
WHAT YOU CAN CARRY	Anything else is left in your car. If you were dropped off, you get a locker key from the Front Lobby Officer. Medication: only the amount needed for the visit.[1]
FOR A BABY	Per infant: 3 diapers, 1 unopened package of wipes, 2 small unopened jars of baby food, 2 clear pre-mixed bottles, 1 receiving blanket, 1 cup. No powdered baby food. Everything in clear containers. A mother who needs privacy to breastfeed may use the attorney visiting room.[1]
NOT ALLOWED IN	Food or drink from outside, cigarettes and tobacco, recording equipment or cameras, wrist watches, electronic sports bands and smart watches. Jewelry is limited to a wedding band and a religious medallion.[1]
WHAT NOT TO WEAR	No shorts, sleeveless shirts, tank tops, tube tops, halter tops, see-through clothes, miniskirts, sundresses, sweatpants, leggings, flip-flops, slippers, hats, caps, sunglasses (unless prescribed), doo-rags or muscle shirts. No camouflage. No khaki, green, orange or yellow clothing. **No open-toed shoes for anyone.** Women must wear a bra. Nothing revealing, nothing with holes.[1]
TOUCHING	One appropriate kiss and one embrace at the start and one at the end. No other touching, and **no hand holding**. First time: a warning. Second time: the visit ends.[1]
WHAT THEY WEAR	Their full issued uniform, with issued work boots or tennis shoes. They may bring in one plain wedding ring, prescription glasses, one plain chain with a religious medallion, authorized religious items and up to 5 photo tickets.[1]
WHEN IT GETS CROWDED	The FMC visiting room holds **140** people and the camp room **120**. When full, staff may end some visits. Local or frequent visitors are ended first. Visits should last at least **1 hour** for local and frequent visitors and **2 hours** for out-of-state and infrequent visitors.[1]
LEAVING	If you leave the visiting area, the visit is over. You cannot come back in the same day unless the Operations Lieutenant approves.[1]
SPECIAL HOUSING UNIT VISITS	Video visits are set up at the front lobby once the visitor is processed. The visitor then goes to the Camp attorney room to log on. Staff print a visitor report for the visitor to take there.[1]
ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT VISITS	One four-hour visit a month, up to 4 people. Their request to staff must go to the Unit Manager at least **21 working days** ahead. The Unit Manager answers in writing within 15 working days. No visit may start after 2:00 p.m.[1]

ALL VISITING DAYS AND HOURS

WHERE	DAYS	HOURS
FMC (main medical center) and satellite camp	Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays	8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Special Housing Unit (SHU)	Video visits only. Same days and times as everyone else. Two back-to-back sessions, one hour in all.	8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Administrative Unit	Saturday and Sunday only (one part of the rules also lists federal holidays). Non-contact. Must be approved ahead of time.	8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Medical/Surgical Unit	Same hours as the main visiting room, when unit staff can watch the visit. No more than 2 visitors for 2 hours. No children.	Same as FMC

No visitor may be on the grounds before 8:00 a.m. Processing stops at **2:00 p.m.** and visitors must leave the visiting room at **3:00 p.m.** On Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays no one is processed in the 30 minutes before the **10:00 a.m. count**. The front entrance starts again once the count clears.[1]

The rules give no regular visiting days except Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays. Lawyers can visit Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

GETTING THERE

To the prison (from the 2026 visiting rules)	The address is FMC Carswell, Naval Air Station, J ST Bldg 3000, Fort Worth, TX 76127. Take 183 South. Turn left onto Roberts Cut-Off Road. At the traffic island, turn left onto Meandering Road. Signs for "Camp Amon Carter" and "Burger's Lake" are on the right before the BOP gate. Meandering Road curves to the right. Stay on it until you see the BOP gate on the left, across from the entrance to Burger's Lake Water Park.

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.

FMC CARSWELL

Rules dated **February 13, 2026** (this year)

Official rules (PDF) (bop.gov/locations/institutions/crw/crw_visit.pdf) En español (PDF) (bop.gov/locations/institutions/crw/crw_visit_sp.pdf)

Skirts and dresses	No miniskirts (no measurement given).
Shorts	No shorts.
Colors to avoid	No khaki-colored clothing. No green-colored clothing. No orange-colored clothing. No yellow-colored clothing.
Leggings, spandex	No leggings.
Bras and metal	Female visitors must wear a bra.
Camouflage, military	No fatigues or camouflage-patterned garments. No fatigues.
Shoes	No open-toed shoes for any visitor. No flip flops, slippers, thongs, or house shoes.
Children	Not in the written rules.

ALL 25 RULES, IN THE BOP'S OWN WORDS

LENGTH AND FIT

- No miniskirts (no measurement given).
  BOP wording: "miniskirts, Sun dresses are not permitted. Any clothing"
- No shorts.
  BOP wording: "Visitors are not permitted to wear shorts, sleeveless"
- No sleeveless shirts, tank tops, or muscle shirts.
  BOP wording: "Visitors are not permitted to wear shorts, sleeveless"
- No halter tops or tube tops.
  BOP wording: "Halter tops, see through clothing of any kind, tube tops,"
- No see-through clothing of any kind.
  BOP wording: "Halter tops, see through clothing of any kind, tube tops,"
- No leggings.
  BOP wording: "leggings, flip flops, slippers, thongs, or house shoes will"
- Clothing must be free of holes.
  BOP wording: "any way to include undergarments and must be free of holes."
- No sweatpants.
  BOP wording: "fatigues or camouflaged-patterned garments, sweatpants,"

COLORS AND UNIFORMS

- No khaki-colored clothing.
  BOP wording: "shirts, khaki colored clothing, green colored clothing,"
- No green-colored clothing.
  BOP wording: "shirts, khaki colored clothing, green colored clothing,"
- No orange-colored clothing.
  BOP wording: "orange colored clothing, or yellow colored clothing, no"
- No yellow-colored clothing.
  BOP wording: "orange colored clothing, or yellow colored clothing, no"
- No fatigues or camouflage-patterned garments.
  BOP wording: "fatigues or camouflaged-patterned garments, sweatpants,"
- No fatigues.
  BOP wording: "fatigues or camouflaged-patterned garments, sweatpants,"

BRAS, UNDERWEAR AND METAL

- Female visitors must wear a bra.
  BOP wording: "visitors must wear a bra (under garments), and may not wear"
- Only a wedding band and religious medallion allowed.
  BOP wording: "wedding band and a religious medallion; all other jewelry"

SHOES

- No open-toed shoes for any visitor.
  BOP wording: "to wear open toed shoes. Clothing must not be revealing in"
- No flip flops, slippers, thongs, or house shoes.
  BOP wording: "leggings, flip flops, slippers, thongs, or house shoes will"

HATS, HOODS AND COATS

- No hats, caps, or doo-rags.
  BOP wording: "tank tops, hats, caps, sunglasses (unless prescribed), doo-"
- Jackets in bad weather must be hung on racks until visit ends.
  BOP wording: "If the need arises for visitors to wear a jacket into the"

EVERYTHING ELSE

- No revealing or possibly offensive clothing; undergarments must not show.
  BOP wording: "that is considered to be revealing or possibly offensive to"
- No sun dresses.
  BOP wording: "miniskirts, Sun dresses are not permitted. Any clothing"
- No sunglasses unless prescribed.
  BOP wording: "tank tops, hats, caps, sunglasses (unless prescribed), doo-"
- No wrist watches, smart watches, or electronic sports bands.
  BOP wording: "Wrist watches, timepieces, or electronic sports bands will"

IF THEY SAY NO

- Questions go to the IDO, or Lieutenant's Office if unavailable.
  BOP wording: "the FMC or SPC. If there are any questions, the IDO should"

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. _____-___
FMC Carswell
P.O. Box 914002
River Oaks, TX 76114

The envelope, filled in. Their name and number must match the BOP Inmate Locator exactly.[2]

The handbook says every letter must carry their **committed name, register number and housing unit**, with the prison name and the P.O. Box. Ask your loved one for their housing unit.[2]

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

THE MAIL RULES

OPENED AND SEARCHED	Regular mail is opened and searched. Stamps and envelope flaps may be removed first.[2]
SENT BACK	Body hair, plant shavings, sexually explicit photographs, greeting cards, stamps, stationery, planners, card stock, journals, lottery tickets, stickers, glitter, lipstick and anything stained with oil are returned to the sender.[2]
MAIL DAYS	First-class mail is handed out Monday through Friday (not holidays) after the 4:00 p.m. count clears and again at 9:30 p.m.[2]
BOOKS AND PAPERS	Hard-cover books must come straight from the publisher, a book club or a bookstore. Magazines come from the publisher. Newspapers come from the publisher on pulp-like paper.[2]
PACKAGES	A package must have an authorization form on file in the mail room before it arrives, and a copy inside. No form on file, and it is returned unopened.[2]
LEGAL MAIL	Opened only in front of them. It must say "Special Mail - Open only in the presence of the inmate." Staff may photocopy the envelope only.[2]
THEIR LETTERS TO YOU	Outgoing mail is left unsealed and is inspected, except legal mail. The return address must have their full name, register number, unit and the prison name, or the letter may be opened to find the sender.[2]
MONEY	Never put money in a letter. Checks and money orders mailed to the prison are sent back. Money goes to the BOP lockbox in Des Moines, Iowa (see the Money tab).[2]

Sources

1. CRW 5267.09g, Visitation Regulations (February 13, 2026) bop.gov/locations/institutions/crw/crw_visit.pdf
2. FMC Carswell Admission and Orientation Handbook (updated April 1, 2023) bop.gov/locations/institutions/crw/crw_ao-handbook.pdf