
WHEN YOUR LOVED ONE IS ARRESTED IN FLORIDA

A SUPPORTIVE GUIDE

TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF & YOUR FAMILY

THIS WHOLE PROCESS CAN BE STRESSFUL!
IT'S REALLY IMPORTANT TO DO WHAT YOU CAN
TO PRIORITIZE THINGS THAT FILL YOUR CUP.

- * SPEND TIME WITH PEOPLE YOU LOVE *
- * CHECK IN WITH YOUR MENTAL HEALTH *
- * SEEK SUPPORT WHERE YOU CAN! *
- * TALK WITH KIDS IN THE WAYS
THEY CAN UNDERSTAND *

INCARCERATION REPLICATES TRAUMA.
ARRESTS CAN BE VIOLENT + SCARY. WE
MUST SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER AND WORK
TOGETHER TO BUILD NETWORKS OF
COMMUNITY CARE. IT IS ESSENTIAL TO
HUMANIZE PEOPLE INSIDE AN INHUMANE
SYSTEM. WE ARE ALL WE HAVE! YOU
ARE NOT ALONE.

WHERE IS MY LOVED ONE??

THERE ARE MANY AGENCIES THAT HAVE THE POWER TO ARREST SOMEONE IN FLORIDA. MOST CITIES AND COUNTIES HAVE LOCAL POLICE, WE'VE GOT STATE TROOPERS/FL HIGHWAY PATROL, ICE (IMMIGRATION + CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT), AND FEDERAL AGENCIES LIKE THE FBI AND DEA (DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION). IT'S TYPICAL THAT REGARDLESS ^{OF} WHO DOES THE ARREST, A PERSON INITIALLY IS TRANSPORTED TO A LOCAL JAIL. THEN, DEPENDING ON THE CHARGES (AND WHO IS BRINGING THE CHARGES) THE PERSON MAY BE TRANSFERRED. THIS MIGHT SEEM A LITTLE COMPLICATED BUT THESE PROCESSES OFTEN TAKE THEIR SWEET TIME AND IT IS IMPORTANT NOT TO PANIC.

*NOTE THAT INDIVIDUAL CASES ARE SPECIFIC AND YOU MIGHT NEED TO DO SOME TRIAL + ERROR TO FIND YOUR LOVED ONE USE THE NEXT PAGE AS A BASIC GUIDE!

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HOW TO FIND AN INCARCERATED PERSON

THERE ARE SEVERAL TYPES OF FACILITIES THAT HOLD PEOPLE IN "INCARCERATION" IN OUR STATE. IF YOU ARE TRYING TO FIND YOUR LOVED ONE, BEGIN BY USING THE WEBSITE OF YOUR LOCAL JAIL TO DO AN "INMATE SEARCH". YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SEARCH BY FULL NAME AND DATE OF BIRTH OR THEIR UNIQUE ASSIGNED INMATE NUMBER. IF SOME TIME HAS PASSED AND THEY ARE NOT IN THE JAIL, YOU CAN CHECK OTHER NEARBY JAILS OR CONSULT THIS LIST FOR OTHER PLACES TO SEARCH. THEY COULD HAVE ALSO BEEN RELEASED.

FL DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS (FDOC)

STATE PRISON IS WHERE YOU GO IF YOUR SENTENCE IS MORE THAN A YEAR (TYPICALLY)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF PRISONS (BOP)

IF YOU ARE FOUND GUILTY OF BREAKING FEDERAL LAWS

IMMIGRATION DETENTION

IF YOU ARE UNSURE OF YOUR LOVED ONE'S CITIZENSHIP STATUS, YOU MIGHT WANT TO CHECK HERE.

INVOLUNTARY MEDICAL HOLDS

MENTAL HEALTH (BAKER ACT) OR SUBSTANCE USE (MARCHMAN ACT)

//////NEXT STEPS...//////

IF YOUR LOVED ONE CANT AFFORD TO HIRE AN ATTORNEY(LAWYER), THEY WILL BE ASSIGNED A PUBLIC DEFENDER! YOU CAN REACH OUT TO THE PD TO HAVE SOME QUESTIONS ANSWERED. REMEMBER, THEY REPRESENT THE DEFENDANT! (NOT YOU) THIS WILL HAPPEN DURING SOME KIND OF FIRST APPEARANCE, A COURT HEARING WHERE A DEFENDANT IS BROUGHT BEFORE A JUDGE. THIS IS WHERE A BOND AMOUNT IS SET.

REMEMBER THAT A DEFENDANT IS INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY, BUT THIS DOES NOT MEAN THEY ARE FREE TO LEAVE.

YOU CAN FOLLOW COURT PROCEEDINGS AND SEARCH FOR COURT DOCUMENTS ONLINE.

BAIL/BOND IS A SYSTEM THAT FAVORS WEALTHY DEFENDANTS.

YOU MIGHT NEED TO SET UP AN ACCOUNT ON JPAY OR A SIMILAR SERVICE WHERE YOU MUST PAY TO STAY CONNECTED WITH YOUR LOVED ONE.

MORE ON THIS

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STAYING CONNECTED

PHONE CALLS

YOUR LOVED ONE MAY BE ABLE TO CALL YOU! IT'S GOOD TO MEMORIZE OUR LOVED ONE'S PHONE NUMBERS 😊 YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO CALL THEM. YOU WILL MOST LIKELY BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COST.

REMEMBER TO NOT TALK ABOUT THE CASE!!

IN ALACHUA COUNTY, CALLS ARE FREE!!

LETTERS

CHECK THE FACILITY WEBSITE FOR MAIL RULES + MAILING ADDRESSES. SOME RULES ARE VERY SPECIFIC.

COMMISSARY

A "STORE" WHERE FOLKS MAY BE ABLE TO BUY EXTRA FOOD + PERSONAL CARE ITEMS. YOU MAY BE ABLE TO "PUT MONEY ON THEIR BOOKS" FOR THIS.

VISITING

*EVERY FACILITY IS DIFFERENT! THEIR "SECURITY LEVEL" MIGHT IMPACT ACCESS TO THESE THINGS.

YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO VISIT YOUR LOVED ONE IN PERSON OR VIA VIDEO.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS INSIDE ARE MONITORED!

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CARE FOR YOUR LOVED ONE INSIDE.

SOME THINGS TO CONSIDER THAT CAN SUPPORT AN INCARCERATED PERSON'S NEEDS:

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS

MEDICATION ACCESS

FILING GRIEVANCES

COMMISSARY FUNDS

VISITS WITH FAMILY + FRIENDS

A WRITING BUDDY

SENDING LETTERS (IF ALLOWED)

RELIGIOUS SUPPORT

BOOKS - CHECK OUT FLORIDA BOOKS TO PRISONERS

THE TERM PEN-PAL IS BANNED IN FL*

* A NOTE ON BEING TRANSGENDER AND INCARCERATED: FLORIDA FACILITIES PLACE YOU IN THE PLACE THAT MATCHES YOUR ASSIGNED SEX AT BIRTH. MANY TRANS PEOPLE IN FL PRISONS HAVE BEEN DENIED THEIR GENDER AFFIRMING CARE. CHECK OUT BLACK AND PINK AND LAMBDA LEGAL FOR MORE. ⑦

* * * RESOURCES * * * * *

FOR MORE INFO, CHECK OUT THESE ORGANIZATIONS:

- FLORIDA CARES
- FL PRISONER SOLIDARITY
- PRISON FELLOWSHIP
- NAMI FLORIDA
- PRISON FAMILIES ALLIANCE
- FLORIDA ACLU
- DISABILITY RIGHTS FL

BOOKS

- FAR APART, CLOSE IN HEART BY BIRTHA BECKY
- WHEN ARE YOU COMING HOME? BY HILARY CUTHRELL
- FOR KIDS! TWO OF EVERY HUNDRED BY RICHARD DYCHES
- SEE YOU SOON BY MARIAME KABA
- WISH YOU WERE HERE: TEENS WRITE ABOUT PARENTS IN PRISON BY AUTUMN SPANNE
- BEYOND SURVIVAL BY LEAH LAKSHMI



A PROJECT OF
COMMUNITY SPRING.
♥
TIL THE CAGES ARE EMPTY.
BY JOJO WITH LOVE