



Texas Department of Criminal Justice RULES FOR TOUR PARTICIPANTS

TOUR RULES

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice has a “No Hostage Policy,” which means employees shall not permit offenders to use hostages to escape from custody or otherwise interfere with orderly institutional operations. Hostages shall not be recognized for bargaining purposes.

All individuals entering a TDCJ unit are subject to search using a metal detector device and pat searched by correctional officers of the same gender.

Tour participants shall have a form of photo identification in their possession prior to entering or exiting a unit.

Tour participants shall not give anything to or take anything from offenders while touring.

Tour participants who are determined by TDCJ staff to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol shall not be allowed to tour.

Participants shall remain together in a group and follow the instructions of the TDCJ tour coordinator for safety and security reasons.

Relatives or close friends of offenders shall not be permitted to tour the unit where the offenders are assigned without prior approval of the warden.

All vehicles shall be parked in designated parking areas. All parked vehicles shall be locked and the ignition key removed. All vehicles are subject to search.

DRESS CODE

All tour participants must be appropriately dressed. Individuals who do not comply with these standards will not be permitted to tour. Please wear comfortable attire, including shoes, when touring the unit. Any attire of extreme design, revealing in nature, or conveying messages of a derogatory or offensive nature through language, logos, or symbols is prohibited. This includes signs or symbols of apparent membership in a Security Threat Group or clique as evidenced by tattoos or other signs or symbols of membership. Any extreme haircuts, styles, or colors are prohibited.



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ITEMS NOT ALLOWED

- Clothing that is tight fitting, revealing, or made with see-through fabrics;
- Tank tops, underwear type t-shirts, and sleeveless tops;
- Any attire exposing the midriff, shoulder, or any portion of the undergarment;
- Sweat suits, wind suits, or pants of any such suit;
- Dresses and skirts, to include slits in skirts, shorter than three inches above the middle of the knee while standing;
- Capri pants, shorter than three inches below the middle of the knee while standing;
- Shorts or cutoffs of any length;
- Pants worn below the waist; and
- Open-toe shoes, flip-flops, or shower shoes (any sandal with the top portion consisting of only a strap that divides the toes).

Cameras, purses, briefcases, cell phones, magazines, tobacco products, packages, pocket knives, or similar items may not be carried into the unit unless authorized by the warden or tour coordinator.

Please leave your cell phone or any other type of electronic device securely locked in your locked vehicle prior to entering the unit.

Tour participants may bring:

- A small wallet, coin purse, or clear plastic bag (Ziploc type), if these items can be searched
- \$25 in coins

PERSONS WHO DO NOT FOLLOW THESE RULES WILL BE ESCORTED FROM THE FACILITY

Tours shall be subject to cancellation and rescheduling based on safety and security requirements of the unit or other unpredictable acts or incidents that may arise.

All tour participants will be searched in accordance with TDCJ policies.

Thank you for your interest in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. For additional information regarding tours on a specific unit, please contact that unit. If for some reason you must cancel a scheduled tour, please notify the specific unit warden's office at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled tour date.