



TIPS ON WRITING TO A PRISONER

Thank you for writing to a prisoner. You must be a very special person. Very few people would be willing to share their time with these men and women who have become the castaways of our society. The fact remains - they are human beings. Loneliness is one of the greatest challenges they face each day. Mail call may be the lowest point of their day, yet communication is essential in the rehabilitation process. Studies have shown that those inmates who have folks on the outside taking an interest in them have a much lower recidivism rate than those who do not. So, thank you for this selfless act which is more than the price of a stamp. It is an act of faith - faith that you can reach out and make a positive difference in another person's life.

Do NOT include gifts IN your letter.

Remember to put your return address and full name (first and last) on the upper left hand corner of the **WHITE** envelope (be sure it is legible) and include it again in the body of the letter in case something happens to the envelope.

You may want to use your church address or business as your return address .

Do not promise money or support. If they ask, we usually say, "I am sorry but I don't send money"

It's a prudent practice not to give out your phone number.

It might be best to avoid talking about the particular crime that person has committed.

Inmate do NOT have access to the Internet but they may have email through ConnectNetwork
<http://www.gtl.net/pa-doc-inmate-services-by-gtl/>

Pennsylvania prisons prohibit inmates from receiving food gifts directly from friends and family members since packages could contain contraband items such as alcohol, weapons or drugs. This program allows you to buy food for inmates and have it delivered directly to the correctional facility via
<https://www.accesscatalog.com/index.html?PageID=8>

Terminate unhealthy communications and notify Friends Over Fences.

Seek advice. If you are still in doubt as to how to proceed, contact Friends Over Fences.

The NEW and ONLY address to writing to inmates in PA state prisons. Letter send to the prison will be returned.

Smart Communications/PA DOC
SCI _____
Inmate Name/Inmate Number
PO Box 33028
St Petersburg, Florida 33733
For more information
<https://www.cor.pa.gov/Pages/Mail.aspx>

"Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering" Hebrews 13:3

John Langel – Pen pal Coordinator
john@friendsoverfences.org
717-329-5494

Friends Over Fences Letter Writing Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Your church affiliation: _____

Where did you hear about Friends Over Fences? _____

This information will NOT be shared with anyone including the inmate.

Email this information to John Langel – Pen pal Coordinator
john@friendsoverfences.org

We only pair men with men and women with women – NO exceptions!