

Returned Mail / Locating Inmates

IPPM Mentor Resource

RETURNED! Sometimes letters sent to a prisoner get **returned**. Possible reasons are:

- The inmate **paroled** (no longer at the prison). (The person will not be found on inmate locator).
- Prisoners got **moved** to another prison
- The **inmate ID** on the envelope was **missing or incorrect**
- A **violation** of that prison's **mail policy**. Increasingly prohibited are: > **Contact Prison Mailroom** <
 - Cards with raised sections / Cards with glitter / **Cards** period.
 - Paper with lines on it. (Inane policies are rare but do exist in some institutions.)
 - Single-spaced type. (Inane policies are rare but do exist in some institutions.)
 - MISSOURI: **NO CARDS!** (Only e-Cards) / Maximum 10 items per envelope (i.e. 10 sheets)
- A recent **change of prisoner's mailing address statewide (new state-central mail processing center)**
 - Effective 5/9/22 all **FLORIDA** inmate mail must be sent to a central location for scanning and routing.
Send to: InmateName, DC#, PrisonName, PO Box **23608**, Tampa, FL **33623**
 - Effective 6/15/22 all **MISSOURI** inmate mail must be sent to a central location for scanning and routing.
Send to: InmateName, DC#, PrisonName, PO Box **25678**, Tampa, FL **33622**
 - Increasingly, states are centralizing inmate mail processing at one location (as seen above)

PRISON MAIL POLICY: Each prison has its rules governing the acceptance of inmate-bound mail. Although this varies for each institution, there are some common policies. The prisoner's unique ***inmate identifier code*** must be correct and **positioned next to the inmate's name** (to the right or below) **on the mailing envelope**. (This identifier code is most often referred to as the "**CDCR number**", "**DOC number**", "**DC number**" – depending on the state)

INMATE LOCATOR: At times it is necessary to go online to "locate" an inmate – to find their address - using their name and/or ***inmate identifier code***. (The locator provides *address, sentence, incarceration date, release date*)

Locating Federal Prisoners: Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) / Federal ID format: **XXXXX-0XX**

- Find by Number: <https://www.bop.gov/inmateloc/> Click **Find by Number** tab
- Find by Name: <https://www.bop.gov/inmateloc/> Click **Find by Name** tab

Locating State Prisoners: Enter inmate's name and/or inmate ID code

- **California:** <https://inmatelocator.cdcr.ca.gov/search.aspx>
- **Texas:** <https://inmate.tdcj.texas.gov/InmateSearch/start.action>
- **Florida:** <http://www.dc.state.fl.us/OffenderSearch/Search.aspx>
- **Nevada:** <https://www.doc.wa.gov/information/inmate-search/>
- **Oregon:** <http://docpub.state.or.us/OOS/intro.jsf>
- **Washington:** <https://www.doc.wa.gov/information/inmate-search/>
- **New Mexico:** <https://www.cd.nm.gov/offender-search/>
- **Arizona:** <https://corrections.az.gov/public-resources/inmate-datasearch>
- **Colorado:** <https://www.doc.state.co.us/oss/>
- **Idaho:** https://www.idoc.idaho.gov/content/prisons/offender_search
- **Utah:** <https://corrections.utah.gov/offender-search/>
- **Pennsylvania:** <https://www.cor.pa.gov/Inmates/Pages/Inmate-Locator.aspx>
- **Missouri:** <https://inmatesearchinfo.com/missouri-inmate-search-department-of-corrections-lookup/>

STATE NOT FOUND HERE? Do a Google search: "[StateName] Inmate Locator" (That's how I made above list) For example, "**Maine** Inmate Locator", "**Oklahoma** Inmate Locator", "**Georgia** Inmate Locator"

LOCATING JAIL INMATES: Do a Google search