

to a prisoner, with love

This packet has everything
you need to write a letter
to someone inside!

1 stamp & envelope

3 blank sheets of paper

& instructions for how to
write someone in prison

Write a letter to:

The Prairieland Defendants

The Prairieland Defendants were
arrested after a protest in
solidarity with ICE Detainees
on July 4th at the Prairieland
Detention Center in Alvarado,
Texas and have become a
touchstone of the government's

campaign to repress dissent.
Unfortunately, as of March 2026
the majority of defendants were
found guilty on most federal
charges and face decades in
prison. As they gear up for
appeals, letter writing,
fundraising, and sharing their
story are important ways to face
this repressive regime.

Inside this packet there is more
info about three of the
defendants, how to write them,
and where to find out more!

Prairieland sets a precedent for how protesters, activists, and even those tangent to them will be prosecuted by the state.

The goal of this case is to criminalize dissent. Regardless of what happened at the demonstration on July 4th, the scale and nature of the state's response was clearly meant to spread fear and demobilize anti-ICE protest.

The DOJ claims that the defendants are part of a violent ideological movement they call "antifa." As evidence they cite zines, political rhetoric, and many practices common for activists such as using Signal, wearing black, and asserting their rights when arrested. They also use as evidence the printing press found in 2 defendants' garage, which they used to print books for small left-wing presses.

Since the guilty verdicts in March of 2026, we know that the fight doesn't end here, as we have to garner more support as we look toward appeals and supporting 13 defendants during their state trials, including 9 of those who were just tried in federal court.

Find more info here:
prairielanddefendants.com



Maricela Rueda

Wichita County
Detention Center, TX
Maricela Rueda, 100010
P.O. Box 247
Phoenix, MD 21131

Maricela (Mari) is a devoted mother, partner, & community member. She has a 12-year-old daughter and three pets. A committed vegan, Mari finds joy and peace in her garden. Mari recently became a birth & postpartum doula, offering care, guidance, & compassion to mothers & families as they navigate one of Life's most meaningful journeys.

Interests: Poetry, horror, animals, nature, witchy stuff

Read a poem by Mari here:
prairielanddefendants.com/defendant-writings/poem-by-maricela-rueda/

Benjamin "Champagne" Song and Joy "Rowan" Gibson lived together before their arrest. They had four cats, who have since been housed with family and friends.

Benjamin Song

Benjamin Hanil Song,
11137-512
FMC Fort Worth
Federal Medical Center
P.O. Box 15330
Fort Worth, TX 76119

Champagne gave themselves fully to their community with love, duty, and devotion. They fed the unhoused population of Oak Cliff and provided training in first aid. They also taught a weekly queer self defense class.

Use their legal name Benjamin Hall Song on your envelope. Otherwise, you can address Song as Champagne or B, and any/all pronouns are okay.

Read their poems here:
prairielanddefendants.com/defendant-writings/poems-by-champagne/



Joy Gibson

Johnson County
Detention Center, TX
Joy Gibson, 202502016
PO Box 247
Phoenix, MD 21131

Rowan (they/she) serves their community with love and care. They were always there if someone needed help and fed the unhoused population of Oak Cliff. They are a vegan who cared for stray animals around them and did their best to make sure everyone had a home.

Interests: Animals, poetry, anime, art, science fiction, fantasy literature

Use their legal name Joy Gibson on your envelope. Otherwise, you can address them as Rowan.

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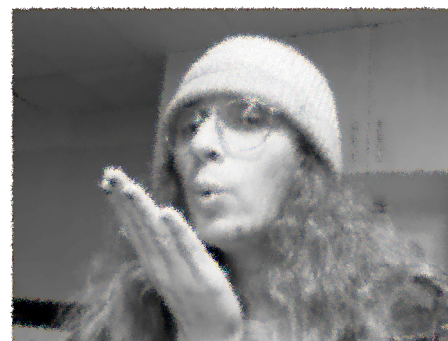


Lucy Fowlkes

Samuel Fowlkes
202600038
Johnson County Jail, TX
P.O. Box 247
Phoenix, MD 21131

Lucy Fowlkes (she/they) loves gardening and horticulture. Hiking and exploring. She loves her dog, Daisy. She lives on a farm and raises goats and chickens. She loves nature and just being outside.

She is very protective of people she loves and strangers as well. She is part of a prayer circle in the jail and is bonding with their cell mates.



Autumn Hill

Cameron Arnold
11138-512
FMC Fort Worth
Federal Medical Center
P.O. Box 15330
Fort Worth, TX 76119

Autumn Hill's name was legally changed circa 2023, but the federal complaint has used her previous name.

On the evening of July 5th, the FBI conducted a no-knock raid at Autumn's shared house. Autumn was arrested after exiting the house without a struggle.

Interests: Religious history and mythology

Important! Please address your actual letter to Autumn, but use her given name (Cameron Arnold) on the envelope.



Janette Goering

Janette Goering
202503019
Johnson County Jail, TX
P.O. Box 247
Phoenix, MD 21131

Janette's loved ones are funding Janette's case via savings and kind parents. She has a husband of 7 years, Jesse Spahn, and 2 wonderful cats.

Interests: Japanese flower arranging, anime, Japanese culture, gaming, Kirby, and gardening

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Des Revol
Daniel Rolando Sanchez Estrada, #95099-511
FMC Fort Worth
Federal Medical Center
PO Box 15330
Fort Worth, TX 76119

Des Revol –a tattoo artist, PoC anarchist, immigrant, and all-around sweetheart– faces charges related to transporting "antifa materials" (aka zines) in the Larger PrairieLand case.

But Des isn't just a victim of trumped-up political prosecution. He's a beloved artist and friend who loves nothing more than experimenting with new vegan recipes, digging into new books, looking at baby opossums and sometimes fostering them, spitting out bars or writing poetry, and spending time with loved ones.

Ines and Liz Soto are parents of three, provide for their youngest child, and they have 2 fur babies.

Ines Soto
Ines Houston Soto,
11144-512
FMC Fort Worth
Federal Medical Center
P.O. Box 15330
Fort Worth, TX 76119

Ines Soto is big-hearted, a dedicated friend and father with a great sense of humor and even greater sense of civic virtue.

Whether he's working on cars or shooting hoops with the kids, it is evident that Ines is someone who loves deeply.

He has a long history of volunteer work including natural disaster relief. He fights for unpopular, excluded, and desperate people. Now we have to fight for him.

Ines is an avid reader who looks forward to reading just about anything.



Elizabeth Soto
Wichita County
Detention Center, TX
Elizabeth Soto, 100005
P.O. Box 247
Phoenix, MD 21131

Elizabeth (Liz) Soto is a mother of 3, provides for her youngest child, and has 2 fur babies. Liz is the kind of person whose loving nature shows in everything she does.

She is always fiery and passionate. She is as courageous as they come. Liz is spontaneous and fun, enjoying life with an adventurous zeal. A lifelong learner, she passionately studies history. In her family, she prioritizes their traditions and culture.

Interests: Geology, native plants, gardening, and sci-fi.

How to write to people in prisons!

Guidelines

RETURN ADDRESS W/
FIRST & LAST NAME

INCLUDE RETURN
ADDRESS IN LETTER

BLUE/BLACK INK

WHITE/YELLOW
LINED/BLANK PAPER

PAGE NUMBERS

WIDE MARGINS

DRAWINGS OKAY!

NO UNAPPROVED ITEMS

Writing letters to people in prisons, jails, and detention centers is one of the most important ways to hear from those inside, to support them, and to build meaningful relationships.

Return address must include a first and last name, or the title of an organization. This does not have to be your real or given name.

If you want the person inside to write you back, include your return address in the body of the letter, as they may not receive the envelope.

Write page numbers and leave wide margins to insure they receive the entire letter. Many prisons photocopy letters instead of providing the hard copy.

Write in blue or black ink only, and on white/yellow lined or blank paper.

Drawings are usually okay as long as they are in blue or black ink.

Do not include other items unless confirmed acceptable items with the prison. You can check with each prison to see what is allowed.

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Guidelines

How to write to people in prisons!

What to Write

INTRODUCE YOURSELF!

BE CHATTY & DESCRIPTIVE

FIND COMMON INTERESTS

CONNECT & INSPIRE

What *not* to Write

NO INCRIMINATING INFORMATION, ONGOING CASES OR ALLEGATIONS

NO POLITICAL COMMENTARY

Starting the letter can be tough. Introducing yourself is the best way to go, and sharing how you found out about them. You can share stories, write about what your passionate about, about your community or movement work, and seek out common interests from what you know about them.

Include details: colors, sounds, tastes, smells. Send a favorite poem, a doodle, tell a story, or a joke. Collaborate with friends to make something you can share in a letter, a drawing or writing you make together. Find little ways to share a connection and inspire hope, joy, and solidarity.

Know that all mail is monitored by state and federal law enforcement. Be very mindful of what not to write about. Do not discuss ongoing cases, any criminal activity, allegations, or overtly political commentary especially for those with ongoing cases. Do not write anything that could incriminate yourself or others.

If you are unsure if content is allowed, ask around for other's experience, and err on the side of caution.

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