

What do I do now that someone is out of jail?

- a. **Attend all the court dates.**
 - i. You could lose your bond and they will be thrown back in jail.
- b. **Establish a reentry plan.**
 - i. After being released you may need to reapply for any benefits you were receiving such as disability or SSN. go to https://www.houstontx.gov/education/reentry_programs.html for a list of reentry programs in Harris County.
- c. **Clear your record.**
 - i. Certain criminal arrests can be cleared from your record.
 1. See if you are eligible by going to: <https://clearyourrecordharriscounty.org/>
 2. If you are eligible to have your record cleared sign up for one of the Clean Slate Clinics at the Earl Carl Institute. fill out an application at https://www.tsulaw.edu/centers/ECI/apply_for_legal_services.html

Harris County Criminal Legal Aid & Pro Bono Services

Texas Civil Rights Project

(832) 767-3650

405 Main Street
Houston, TX 77002

Practice Areas: Criminal, Civil Rights, Employment and Immigration

Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law Criminal Law Clinic

(713) 313-7275

3100 Cleburne Street
Houston, TX 77004

Practice Areas: Criminal

Access Justice Houston

(832) 772-6743

Accessjusticehouston.org

Practice Areas: Criminal

Disability Rights Texas Southern University

(713) 974-7691

DRTx.org

Practice Areas: Advocacy for incarcerated persons with disabilities

Restoring Justice

(832) 703-4660

restoringjustice.org

Practice Areas: Criminal

WHAT TO DO WHEN YOUR LOVED ONE IS ARRESTED AN INFORMATIONAL GUIDE FOR HARRIS COUNTY RESIDENTS



*"Creating a New Vision for
Legal & Social Justice"*

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW
3100 Cleburne Street
Houston, TX 77004

713.313.1161

www.earlcarlinstitute.org

INNOCENCE PROJECT

Earl Carl Institute for Legal & Social Policy

Because Truth Matters

How to find someone in the Harris County Jail?

- a. Go to <https://www.harriscountytso.org/JailInfo/FindSomeoneInJail>
- b. Call 713-755-5300
- c. You will need the person's SPN

What is a System Person Number or SPN?

- i. This is the person's ID number in Harris county.
- ii. This will also allow to look up someone's next court date at <https://www.hcdistrictclerk.com/edocs/public/search.aspx>
- iii. You can also find out the name of someone's attorney using the SPN number by going to <https://www.hcdistrictclerk.com/edocs/public/search.aspx>

How can I contact someone in Harris County Jail?

- a. **In person**
 - i. Visitors must register via the online application before they are allowed to visit someone
 - ii. After registering you will still need to schedule the visit seven days beforehand.
 - iii. See <https://www.harriscountytso.org/JailInfo/InmateVisitation> about how to register and schedule a visit
- b. **Through the Phone**
 - i. Inmates are allowed to place calls through their Advance Pay Accounts.
 - ii. This account must be set up by calling 1-800-844-6591.
 - iii. See <https://www.harriscountytso.org/JailInfo/InmateInfoPhonecalls> for more information.

How can I contact someone (continued)

a. Through the Mail

- i. You will need to add the inmate's SPN and cell block to the letter.
1. **Cell blocks can be found in the same website you used to search for them.**
- ii. Envelopes, stamps, pens, and medicine CANNOT be sent in the mail.
 - iii. For more information see <https://www.harriscountytso.org/JailInfo/inmateinfoinmatemail>

How to get care for someone in Harris County Jail?

a. File a report with inmate care if:

- i. They need medical care.
- ii. They need mental health care.
- iii. The food service in poor quality
- iv. The cell in unsanitary
- v. You are being denied visitations.
- vi. <https://www.harriscountytso.org/JailInfo/inmateinfoinmateQOL>

b. Contact Disability Rights Texas if you believe that a disabled inmate is not receiving proper treatment as required by law.

Disability Rights Texas
803-252-9108
www.DRTx.org

c. If there is misconduct by the jailers:

- i. Contact Internal Affairs by going to: <https://www.harriscountytso.org/ContactUs/ComplainantInfo>
-Or-
Calling 713-274-5003
- ii. File a jail Grievance with:
 1. Texas Commission on Jail Standards
300 W. 15th Street Suite 503
Austin, Texas 78701
512-463-5505

2. Texas Jail Project
13121 Louetta Road #1330
Cypress, Texas 77429
512-469-7665

How do I get someone out of jail?

a. Personal bond

- i. If a judge sets a personal bond an inmate will not have to pay and will be released with the condition to go to all the court dates.
- ii. Harris County has a bail docket and people are assigned bail attorneys
 1. It is important that you contact the assigned attorney at (713) 274-6700 so you can give them your story and they will give it to the judge.
 2. Many factors are considered when setting a bond so move fast!

b. Surety Bond

- i. If a judge sets a surety bond, an amount of money must be paid or promised to get someone out of jail.
- ii. You can pay that in full via money order at 700 N. San Jacinto Street, Houston, TX 77002.
- iii. You can also use a bond company
 1. Bond company's charge a fee for their services and those fees range. Call around before you decide on a bonding company.
 2. A list of approved bonding companies can be found at <https://bailbond.harriscountytx.gov/>