

Before you go: keeping your valuables and papers safe

For anyone facing a long sentence, and the family helping them. Settle these before the surrender date.

1. Ask your attorney first

- ☐ Which items are free to move. Anything that is, or may be, part of your case stays where your attorney says.
- ☐ Whether you need a power of attorney, and who should prepare it.

2. List what you own

- ☐ Jewelry: a photo of each piece, plus any appraisal or receipt.
- ☐ Watches: brand, model or reference number, and serial number.
- ☐ Coins and bullion: type, weight and count. Keep dealer receipts.
- ☐ Deeds, vehicle titles, insurance policies, birth certificate, Social Security card, passport.
- ☐ Family photographs and papers that cannot be replaced.

3. Name one person

- ☐ Choose one adult you trust to act while you are away, and tell them where everything is.
- ☐ A Florida power of attorney must be signed by you and two witnesses and acknowledged before a notary (Fla. Stat. § 709.2105). If you are already in custody, the facility decides how witnesses and a notary can reach you.
- ☐ Give that person a copy of the signed inventory.

4. Choose the term

- ☐ Rent for longer than the expected sentence. Rent that runs out is how boxes get lost.
- ☐ 3 to 5 year terms: 20% off each year's rent. 5 years or more: 25% off each year's rent.
- ☐ Boxes start at \$795 a year. Contents insurance is arranged separately.

5. Bring to the intake visit

- ☐ Government-issued photo ID.
- ☐ The items and the records from step 2.
- ☐ Your chosen person's name and contact details.
- ☐ Payment for the term.

Good to know. Every renter is identified against photo ID and every visit is logged. Warrants, subpoenas and court orders are honored. A vault box protects nothing from legal process.

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