Rules for Visitors to San Quentin – February 2016

Please note that in order to enter the prison, you must have your driver’s license, or whatever government-issued photo ID you were cleared with.

Clothing:
- No blue or denim clothing (beware of greys or blacks that might look blue in some light)
- No green, yellow, or orange clothing
- No white or grey t-shirts
- No sweats or other athletic attire
[Note: khaki, black, brown, red, dark purple, and pink are all fine!]
- Nothing tight, transparent, or low-cut
- No short skirts or dresses
- No shorts or pants that are not nearly full-length
- Nothing sleeveless (short sleeves are OK)
- No shirts that reveal one’s stomach or back including when sitting, crouching, reaching, etc.
- No clothing with patterns resembling camouflage, or with overt or implied political messages that could possibly be viewed as “incendiary.”
- Shoes must cover feet completely. No sandals or anything similar.

Other prohibited items:
Please note: the list of items considered contraband is endless and constantly expanding, and the consequences of “misunderstandings” can be very serious for the program. Therefore, please be sure to ask if you are not sure what is acceptable.

- No bags
- No food but bottles of water are OK if in clear plastic

Specifically disallowed (and considered contraband) are:
Cell phones, tobacco products, pocket knives, pagers, letters, chewing gum, recording devices, camera equipment, laptops, and anything else electronic, metal, or sharp.

Acceptable items include:
Watches and jewelry, belts, underwire bras, eyeglasses, car keys, pad of paper, pen or pencil, and tissues.

Shaking hands is fine but you may not hug people inside.

Finally, as a reminder, prisons are essentially paramilitary organizations, and as a visitor to the College Program, you become a representative of that program. Your showing deference and respect for prison staff at all times is vital to our ability to maintain a positive relationship with the institution as a whole. Therefore, no matter what, please always remain patient and civil with staff.