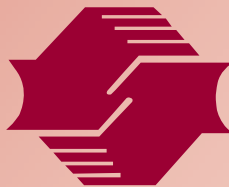


Handling the Crisis

A Guide to Arrest and Incarceration of Adults in Fairfax County

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*“Rebuilding Lives and Breaking the Cycle of Crime”
with Opportunities, Alternatives, and Resources*

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Notice: *Nothing in this guide is intended to serve as legal advice or to substitute for legal counsel or other professional assistance. While OAR of Fairfax County has made every effort to provide accurate, helpful information, the content of this guide is subject to change without notice. Corrections or updated information are welcome and should be e-mailed to: info@oarfairfax.org. By mail to OAR of Fairfax County, 10640 Page Ave., Suite 250, Fairfax, VA 22030 or call 703-246-3033.*

Introduction

The arrest of a family member or friend is a frightening, disturbing experience. You are not alone; there are people who can help. This Guide provides information about arrest and incarceration of adults* charged with a crime.

- **How the system works**
- **Where to go for help**
- **What you can do**

(*For information about the arrest/detention of juveniles [click here](#) or go to: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/courts/jdr/jdc/jdc01Geninfo.htm>)

ARREST

Anyone arrested in Fairfax County is first transported by the Police to the nearest Magistrate's office. There the arrestee is photographed and finger-printed by law enforcement officials. If charged with drunk driving, a breath or blood test for alcohol level is administered. The arrestee is then brought before the Magistrate, who will set bond and decide if the arrestee can be released pending trial. If the arrestee is not

released, he/she is taken to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center (ADC), sometimes simply called the jail. The ADC is located in downtown Fairfax City at [10520 Judicial Drive](#), just west of Chain Bridge Road.



IMPORTANT: The Sheriff's Office is responsible for jail operations and sets all rules and regulations in the jail. More information below.

If the arrestee has been taken before a Magistrate at one of the police substations, there may be a short delay before being transported to the ADC. This gives the arrestee an opportunity to make arrangements for a bondsman (see pg. 3 for information about bonding). Once transported to the ADC, the arrestee goes through the following procedures:

BOOKING AND INITIAL PROCESSING

During processing at the Adult Detention Center, basic personal and health care information is gathered and the person is again photographed. A search is conducted. Valuables and miscellaneous property are turned in for safekeeping. Items are inventoried in the individual's presence and a receipt is given; upon release, these valuables and property will be returned. If specific medical concerns are noted, the person is seen promptly by a member of the health care staff. The person is then placed in a receiving area and allowed limited telephone use. (For information about juvenile processing, [click here](#) or go to: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/courts/jdr/jdc/jdc01Geninfo.htm>)

INCARCERATION AT THE ADC (JAIL): Frequently Asked Questions and Visiting



IMPORTANT: the Sheriff's Office has established strict rules regarding visitation, money, mail, telephone calls, what inmates may have in their possession, etc. Make no assumptions. Get the facts. Read the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) link provided below or visit the Sheriff's website also provided below.

- [FAQs](#)
- [Visiting](#)
- Jail telephone number: 703-246-2100
- Sheriff's Office website: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/sheriff/adc-main.htm>

General information: anyone likely to remain in jail more than 24 hours will be interviewed, classified, and assessed for a general inmate population housing area. Special housing is available for medical or temporary isolation purposes. Persons jailed will turn in the clothes they are wearing and will be issued necessary clothing, linens, personal hygiene items, and an ADC orientation handbook.

At the time of transfer to a general population area, certain personal items removed during initial processing will be returned, depending upon available storage space, potential fire hazard, and security limitations.

PRE-TRIAL RELEASE

Most adults incarcerated in the Adult Detention Center who are charged with criminal or serious traffic offenses will be interviewed by a representative of Court Services. The background information obtained will be reviewed by a Magistrate to see if the defendant should be released pending trial. If the defendant is not released, the defendant's bond status will again be reviewed by a judge at the arraignment hearing the next morning that court is in session, using the background information already obtained. The possible types of pretrial release are: Personal Recognizance, Third Party Custody, Posting Entire Bond in Cash, or Obtaining the Services of a Bonding Company*.

The final decision to release the defendant in either of the first two types of release is made only by a Magistrate or Judge. The decision is based on information pertinent to the defendant's likelihood of returning for trial. For more information about the role of the Magistrate [click here](#), or go to: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/courts/magistra.htm>

(*Lists of area bonding companies are posted at the ADC, at the Magistrate's offices, and listed in the Yellow Pages of the telephone directory under "Bail Bonds".)

RELEASE

Inmates rarely serve their full sentence. The law provides for "good time credits" which can reduce the original sentence. Also, time spent in jail before trial is counted as time served toward the sentence. The Sheriff's Office calculates the actual release date. Contact the Sheriff's office for specifics about an inmate's release. **Call 703-246-2100.**



IMPORTANT: Inmates are released at 12:01 a.m. the day their sentence ends. However, inmates may request a "hold over" until 8:00 that morning.

TRANSFERS TO STATE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Sometimes an inmate is transferred to a State Correctional Institution. The family may lose contact and not know where the inmate is now housed. To find a person under these circumstances [click here](#) for the Virginia Department of Corrections—Inmates and Incarcerated Offenders Information system or call the number or visit the website listed below.

Telephone number: 804-674-3131, press "0" for operator; website:

<http://www.vadoc.state.va.us/offenders/>

COURTS

For information about the Fairfax County Court system, [click here](#) or visit:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/legal/>

LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Public Defenders or Court-Appointed Attorneys are available to arrested individuals who cannot afford an attorney in a criminal or serious traffic case **ONLY** where a jail sentence is a possibility. At the first hearing in court, the judge will decide if the defendant is eligible for such a service, the Court Services offices will, on the same day, assign a public defender or court-appointed attorney. Each public defender and court-appointed attorney is a lawyer, but PDs are not in private practice. The Public Defender's Office can only accept cases that are appointed to them by the court, while court appointed lawyers also accept paying clients. The attorney is chosen based on the seriousness of the crime and receives a reduced, set fee for services. If the defendant is convicted, this fee becomes part of his or her court costs which must eventually be paid.

OTHER LEGAL RESOURCES



IMPORTANT: hours, fees, and services may vary for the resources listed below. Call or go to the organization's website for current information.

- **Lawyer Referral and Information Services**
This service of the Fairfax Bar Association will make an appointment for you with an attorney who practices in the appropriate (case related) field of law and who is in the area of the county most convenient to the involved parties.
Tel. 703-246-3780. Website: <http://www.fairfaxbar.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=4>
- **Virginia Lawyer Referral Service**
This is a statewide service operated by the Virginia State Bar in Richmond. Referrals for private licensed attorneys are given based on the legal issue and geographical area.
Tel. 1-800-552-7977. Website: <http://www.vsb.org/site/public/lawyer-referral-service/>
- **Legal Services of Northern Virginia, Fairfax Branch**
Represents income eligible county residents free of charge in certain civil and domestic matters.
Tel. 703-246-4500. Website: http://www.lsnv.org/LSNV_Services.pdf
- **Potomac Legal Aid Society**
Potomac Legal Aid Society, Inc. (Potomac) is a not-for-profit law firm that offers free legal services to eligible low-income individuals with civil matters in the areas of domestic violence and family law, consumer debt issues, bankruptcy and the denial of public benefits.
Tel. 703-532-2525. Website: <http://www.potomaclegalaid.org>

FAMILY NEEDS

OAR of Fairfax County's Transitional and Family Services

The Transitional and Family Services (TFS) unit provides a variety of services designed to assist inmates of the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center (ADC), as well as formerly incarcerated persons residing in Fairfax County. The goal of these services is to encourage individuals to become self-sufficient members of

the community. Services are also available to immediate family members of incarcerated and formerly incarcerated persons dealing with crises and hardships incurred due to incarceration. OAR understands that the family members of individuals who have been incarcerated are also victims. For that reason, the Work Empowerment Program and a biweekly support group are available to family members.

Tel. 703-246-3033. Website: <http://www.oarfairfax.org/transition.htm>

OAR of Fairfax County's Family Support Group

The Family Support Group meets bi-weekly to help family members cope with the emotional impact of loss and trauma associated with the incarceration of a loved one. Education about the correctional system, rules on visitation, resources in the community, etc. are provided. Participants share solutions for difficult situations. Current schedule: twice a month from 7-8:30 p.m., OAR office, 10640 Page Ave., Suite 250, Fairfax, VA 22030. Check OAR of Fairfax County's website under "Calendar of Events" for the current schedule or call **Tel. 703-246-3033.**

Website: <http://www.oarfairfax.org/family.htm> . For directions to office: [Directions](#).

Fairfax County Emergency Assistance Information (Click on links below or call **703-222-0880**)

[Coordinated Services Planning](#)

[Basic Needs](#)

[Hotlines](#)

[Human Services Resource Guide](#)

[Shelters](#)

Tel. 703-222-0880. Website: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dsm/csp>