

Criminal Sanctions Region of Western Finland

Satakunta Prison, Huittinen Unit

Prison rules

Entry into force on 2 December 2019

Prison rules for Huittinen Unit of Satakunta Prison

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1 § General

These prison rules contain more specific regulations than the Imprisonment Act and the provisions and regulations issued under the Act on the movement within the prison area and locking of the premises, wards, arrangements related to visits, telephone use and free time activities, possession of property, and other corresponding individual issues related to the maintenance of prison order and arrangement of activities in the prison.

Prisoners must comply with the prison rules. A prisoner may be imposed a disciplinary punishment for violating the prison rules provided that the prison rules expressly state that the violation of the rule may be punishable by a disciplinary punishment.

A prisoner may also be imposed a disciplinary punishment if the prisoner fails to obey a request or order issued by an official of the Criminal Sanctions Agency within the official's authority to maintain prison order and security.

2 § Moving within the prison area

Prisoners may move and spend time in their appointed activity and workplace, in their own accommodation ward, and in areas appointed for outdoor exercise, meals, and free-time activities at times stated in the daily schedule of the ward and the attached map (appendix 1).

Moving elsewhere in the prison or its area without a permission is forbidden. A disciplinary punishment may be imposed for violating this rule.

3 § Clothing in the prison area

Prisoners must be properly dressed within the prison area.

4 § Checking the number of prisoners

In other wards than the terraced house, the checking of the number of prisoners is announced through the public address system. Prisoners must be in their own cells when the number of prisoners is being checked. The more precise times when the number of prisoners is checked are in the daily schedule.

In the terraced house, the number of prisoners is checked at times defined in the daily schedule. The prisoners must then be in their own rooms. Prisoners placed in the terraced house must report to the prison officers' office at times defined in the daily schedule.

5 § Prison activities

The prison arranges work and other activities that support the goals of the sentence plans and improve the abilities and readiness of the prisoners to work. In addition, prisoners can study or participate in group or individual rehabilitation. Prisoners may be given permission to do open prison work.

Religious activities are arranged every week according to a separate weekly schedule.

In their free time, prisoners can go outdoors, exercise or spend time in the recreational facilities. The prison may also arrange a possibility to attend excursions or sports outside the prison.

The prison has a library, which the prisoners can use several times a week at times specified in the daily schedule.

6 § Procuring goods

Prisoners can buy tobacco, foodstuffs and other goods suitable for personal use, such as hygiene products, from outside the prison by filling in an order list once a week on the day specified in the daily schedule of the ward. Other possible purchases must be arranged separately with the prison staff.

Prisoners placed in the terraced house may do their shopping twice a week at times defined separately in order to be able to prepare their own meals. The conditions of permission to study or do civilian work or open prison work include a separate shopping day or days for those prisoners.

7 § Visits

7.1 § Supervised visits

Supervised visits are arranged on Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays. On each day, the visits are arranged in two groups (visiting group I and visiting group II). The visiting time of group I is at 10.30–11.55 and group II at 12.05–13.30. The visits are arranged in the visiting facilities in the terraced house.

Prisoners must fill in a visit form and leave it in the office of the prison ward by 18.00 on Thursday preceding the visit or, on public holidays, by 12.00 on the weekday preceding the visit. Prisoners must inform their visitors of the time of the visit themselves.

All the prisoner's / family's children and the spouse can visit the prisoner at the same time despite how many there are. The number of other visitors a prisoner can have is not restricted but, if necessary, can be limited if the facilities become too cramped.

7.2 § Unsupervised visits

Unsupervised visits are arranged every day when needed. An unsupervised visit can start between 17.00 and 20.00 and it ends on the last day of the visit at 15.00 at the latest. It is possible to agree on other beginning and end times separately.

There is a separate application form for unsupervised visits. The first time, the form must be returned to the senior instructor in charge of social work but, after that, the form can be left in the prison officers' office. An unsupervised visit must be applied for in good time before the desired date of the visit. Prisoners must go to the prison officers' office to reserve the visiting time.

7.3 § Communication via video connection

Prisoners may be given permission to communicate with their relatives or other close people by using a computer meant for prisoners (so-called Skype meetings). Each meeting via video connection must be applied for separately in writing by filling in a form.

A meeting via video connection may be granted once a week for 45 minutes at a time.

7.4 § Receiving goods during visits

During visits, prisoners may receive only a minor amount of goods. Possible goods meant for a visitor or a prisoner must always be given via the prison staff. A visitor may bring a prisoner tobacco that is in the original retail packaging as well as clothes and other goods meant for personal use while in prison. The allowed amount of goods is one normal plastic shopping bag (30 litres at most).

The visitor must give the clothes, tobacco products and other goods meant for the prisoner to the supervision staff for inspection when the visitor arrives in prison for the visit. The visitor may not give the prisoner or the prisoner may not receive any goods or products directly. All goods must be inspected by the prison staff before they are given to the prisoner.

8 § Smoking and cleanliness

Smoking is forbidden in all other areas except for those specifically assigned for smoking. A disciplinary punishment may be imposed on a prisoner for acting against this rule.

The order of the furniture in the accommodation room cannot be changed without the permission of an official of the Criminal Sanctions Agency. All goods must be stored in the cabinets and other storage places.

Pictures, posters, and other objects may only be attached to the notice board hung on the wall in the accommodation room. A disciplinary punishment may be imposed on a prisoner for attaching objects elsewhere in the accommodation room.

Electrical devices must be switched off when leaving the accommodation room.

9 § Possession of property

9.1 § Objects and substances the possession of which may be denied

According to chapter 9, section 1, subsection 1, paragraph 1 of the Imprisonment Act, the possession of an object or substance may be denied if it poses a threat to the safety of a person. Besides firearms, edged weapons, blunt instruments, explosives and gas sprays, such objects and substances include also, among others, poisons and aerosol products with propellant gas. In addition, substances posing a threat include chemical compounds that can be used to make explosives, such as hair dyes containing hydrogen peroxide.

According to chapter 9, section 1, subsection 1, paragraph 2 of the Imprisonment Act, the possession of an object or substance may be denied if it is especially suited for damaging property. These include, among others, tools suitable for damaging property.

According to chapter 9, section 1, subsection 1, paragraph 3 of the Imprisonment Act, the possession of an object or substance may be denied if the possession of it is, when taking into account the conditions and the level of supervision in the prison or a prison ward, detrimental to general prison order. These include, among others, the following:

- 1) Devices that enable photography or filming. These include, among others, cameras and video cameras.
- 2) Devices that are suitable for intercepting and monitoring the radio traffic of authorities or otherwise observing the activities of authorities. These include, among others, radiotelephones and radio traffic detectors. Binoculars and other optical devices suitable for observation are also forbidden.
- 3) Objects that can cause a cleanliness, health, or fire hazard. These include, among others, tattoo equipment, animals, plants, and candles.
- 4) Objects that are otherwise detrimental to the public order of the prison. These include, among others, objects used for fighting and escaping, replica weapons, and objects bearing the symbols of criminal organisations and groups.

According to chapter 9, section 1, subsection 1, paragraph 4 of the Imprisonment Act, the possession of an object or substance may be denied if it cannot be inspected without unreasonable difficulty or without damaging it.

According to chapter 9, section 1, subsection 1, paragraph 5 of the Imprisonment Act, the possession of an object or substance may be denied if it is used as a means of commission of an offence or there are reasonable grounds to suspect that it will be used as such. This may refer to, for instance, a situation where a prisoner uses a typewriter, which is in the prisoner's possession, to falsify documents or commit frauds.

According to chapter 9, section 1, subsection 1, paragraph 6 of the Imprisonment Act, the possession of an object or substance may be denied if the prison has acquired a corresponding object for the use of the prisoner. These include, among others, objects already belonging to the furnishing of the accommodation room and other objects acquired by the prison for the use of prisoners if the prisoner has a real opportunity to use the object.

A disciplinary punishment may be imposed on a prisoner if the aforementioned objects or substances are found in the prisoner's possession.

9.2 § Other factors influencing the possession of objects or substances

Prisoners are only allowed to have a reasonable amount of private property in their possession. The amount of utility articles given in their possession must be such that they can be stored in the storage spaces of the accommodation room in places reserved for them.

A prisoner may be given a mobile phone and/or a computer if the prisoner has been given permission to use and possess them. Otherwise, such devices are prohibited, as are add-ons and accessories that can be used to connect to the Internet. A disciplinary punishment may be imposed on a prisoner for an unauthorised possession of the aforementioned objects.

An Internet connection may not be established on game consoles or other devices, even if the device could enable it. A disciplinary punishment may be imposed for unauthorised Internet access.

The prerequisites for the possession of an electrical device are that the device is type approved (CE marking), it is intact, and has an identification number.

Modifying authorised objects so that they are more suitable for being used for acts of violence is prohibited. This refers to, for example, making an article suitable as a blunt weapon or sharpening a toothbrush. A disciplinary punishment may be imposed on a prisoner if such objects are found in the prisoner's possession.

When a prisoner brings goods to prison, they must be shown to the prison staff. A disciplinary punishment may be imposed on a prisoner if the prisoner tries to bring unauthorised goods to a prison and avoid an inspection.

A maximum of 50 copies of all recordings (including CD, DVD, Blu-ray and game console games), 10 copies of books, and 20 copies of magazines are given into possession at a time.

The rules on the possession of property do not apply to objects and substances that have been given in the possession of a prisoner before the prison rules entered into force. If a prisoner is transferred to another prison, the prison rules in force there at the time of the transfer are applied.

10 § Prison wards

Huittinen Unit of Satakunta Prison has wards with different level of supervision and range of activities.

Huittinen Unit has accommodation wards on floors 1, 2, 3 and 4 in the main building and a separate accommodation ward for prisoners living more independently in a terraced house. The accommodation ward on the 2nd floor of the main building is a more restricted ward for prisoners who arrive in the prison or relapse (so-called intro ward).

11 § Substance use and medication

A disciplinary punishment may be imposed for manipulating or attempting to manipulate a substance use test.

Prisoners are not allowed to use or possess medication without the authorisation of a physician of the Health Care Services for Prisoners. Medication must be kept in pill dispensers and bags meant for them or other original packaging and unused medication has to be returned. Prisoners are not allowed to give medication prescribed to them to other prisoners. A disciplinary punishment may be imposed for violating these rules.

12 § Entry into force

This prison order enters into force on 2 December 2019 and repeals the prison order that entered into force on 1 December 2017.

Tampere 29 November 2019

On behalf of Region Director,
Financial Manager

Petteri Kaleva

Lawyer

Heidi Ravinen

APPENDICES

Map of the prison area allowed for moving and exercise (appendix 1)