

Prisoners Literature Project  
c/o Bound Together Bookstore  
1369 Haight Street  
San Francisco, CA 94117

(rev. 1/21)

## PLP ORDERING GUIDELINES

**The Prisoners Literature Project** has been sending **free books to prisoners** for over 30 years. Funded entirely by donations, we're all volunteers, working out of a small office crammed with books. Because we receive over 200 letters every week, and want to help as many people as possible, **please limit your requests to once every nine months, and share the books after you've read them.** And please follow these guidelines:

- 1. Please be patient.** Because we get so many book requests, we are generally up to three months behind in responding. We'd like get you books more quickly, and do the best we can with limited resources. Please take our turnaround time into account if you're going to be transferred or paroled.
- 2. Let us know your prison's book restrictions.** Do they allow used books, or new only? Are hardcovers OK, or do they only accept paperbacks? How many books can we send? Are any subjects prohibited? Prison restrictions change all the time, so we appreciate any updates. We can no longer do 'prior approval'.
- 3. Just list the subjects or types of books you're interested in, not specific book titles or authors.** We do not have a catalog, because all of our books are donated, and change every week. We generally have plenty of **non-fiction**, including books on **history, politics, science, natural history, prison, psychology, LGBTQ topics, how-to guides, and more.** We also have lots of **fiction**, including **African American, Latinx, and Native American titles.**

Many of these book topics are in high demand, and we can run out of them quickly – so please **be sure to list any and all topics you are interested in.** We will always do our best to send you what you ask for.

**Important: We do *not* carry** law books, legal guides, Bibles, or Christian literature. We rarely have atlases. Because of postage fees, we also have to limit the weight of the packages we send. We will ***not*** send racist, sexist, or homophobic material.

- 4. Please write clearly – especially your name, ID number, and address. Be sure to write your full address info in two places: on the envelope, and in your letter.** We always appreciate stamps, but understand that sometimes it's not possible. Your thank-you letters and art are great.
- 5. We don't offer legal advice, and we don't have a pen pal service.** Sorry.

That's about it. We really hope you enjoy the free books. Take care and stay strong.

– the PLP volunteers

## **OTHER INFORMATION RESOURCES**

If your prison allows it, we will include a copy of the **P.A.R.C. Resource Directory** in our book package to you. Here are a few other information sources. Most of them are free:

### **The Jailhouse Lawyers' Handbook**

Published jointly by the National Lawyers Guild and the Center for Constitutional Rights, the **Jailhouse Lawyers' Handbook** explains how a prisoner can start a lawsuit in federal court to fight against mistreatment and poor conditions in prison. It also contains general information about the American legal system.

Though hard copies are not currently available, you can have a friend or family member download the **Jailhouse Lawyers' Handbook** online: [www.nlg.org/jailhouse-lawyers-handbook](http://www.nlg.org/jailhouse-lawyers-handbook)

### **"We the People" Legal Primer**

Published by the Prison Book Program, the **"We the People" Legal Primer** is a basic legal resource containing key law terms, post-conviction remedies, advice on court appearances, and more. You can request a copy of this 80-page resource from us at the Prisoners Literature Project. Or have a friend or family member download the legal primer for free from this website: <https://prisonbookprogram.org/for-people-in-prison/legal-resources>

### **Root & Rebound**

This is a nonprofit reentry advocacy center that publishes guides to help prisoners understand, prepare for, and navigate reentry before parole or release. In addition to its national guide, **Root & Rebound** lists resources specifically for people in prison in California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Minnesota, and those in Native American communities.

Download Root & Rebound's guides online at: [www.rootandrebound.org/get-support/resources/](http://www.rootandrebound.org/get-support/resources/)

### **LGBT Books to Prisoners**

This nonprofit group sends up to two packages of books and other resources per year free of charge to LGBTQ-identified prisoners across the U.S. To make a book request, send a letter with your name, ID#, address, and the genres of books you'd like to the address below. **LGBT Books to Prisoners** also asks that people self-identify in their first letter.

#### **LGBT Books to Prisoners**

**c/o Social Justice Center Incubator**

**1202 Williamson Street, suite 1**

**Madison, WI 53703**

You can also have a friend or family member email [lgbtbookstoprisoners@gmail.com](mailto:lgbtbookstoprisoners@gmail.com) with the subject line "prisoner book order."