



British Embassy Bangkok

Information Pack for British Prisoners in Thailand

IMPORTANT – This booklet contains information that will be helpful to you whilst you are detained – Please take your time to read it. Your regular consular visit will be a good opportunity to discuss any part of this booklet, or you can write to us with any questions using the address on the front page of this booklet.

Author **British Embassy Bangkok**

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INTRODUCTION

Who can help?

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO):
 The FCDO is represented in Thailand by the British Embassy Bangkok, Both employ consular officers, and one of their duties is to provide help and advice to any British National who gets into difficulty in a foreign country.

About the Embassy

We are impartial; we are not here to judge you. We aim to make sure that you are treated properly and fairly in accordance with local regulations, and that you are treated no less favourably than other prisoners.

We can answer questions about your welfare and about prison regulations but you must ask your lawyer or the court about legal matters. The attached list of lawyers is provided by the British Embassy for your convenience, but neither Her Majesty’s Government, nor any official of the Embassy, take any responsibility for the competence or probity of any firm/advocate on the list or for the consequence of any legal action initiated or advice given.

We cannot get you out of prison, pay fines or stand bail. We are unable to interfere with local judicial procedures to get you out from prison; nor can we secure you an earlier trial date. We cannot investigate crimes.

We have tried to make sure that the information in this booklet is accurate and up to date, but the British Embassy cannot accept legal responsibility for any errors or omissions in the information. If in doubt you are advised to contact a lawyer.

Who are the Consular Representatives?

There are a number of case officers within the Consular Section of the British Embassy. We will tell you who your case officer will be during our initial contact/visit. All officers can be contacted at the Consular Section of the British Embassy Bangkok.

Contact Information

British Embassy Bangkok
 AIA Sathorn Tower, 11/1 South Sathorn Road,
 Sathorn, Bangkok 10120
 Tel: +66 (0) 2 305 8333

For family and friends in the UK:
 Thailand Country Casework Team, Consular Directorate, Foreign, Commonwealth &

Development Office, King Charles Street, London, SW1A 2AH
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7008 1500

Lines are open 24 hours a day

Website: [UK help and services in Thailand](#)
[Contact Form](#)

FIRST STEPS

Who will know I have been detained?

When a British national is arrested and detained in Thailand, the Thai authorities will usually inform the Embassy. However, on occasions we may also learn of an arrest informally from friends, family or even the press.

What will my family be told?

For reasons of confidentiality, we are not permitted to tell anyone **including family members** that you have been detained or on what charges without your permission. If you want us to, we can tell your family or friends that you have been arrested. We will also advise the Consular Directorate in the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office in the UK of your detention. We will only contact your family with your permission and we will ask you what information you want us to share. Once we have your permission to speak to your family, we can pass messages between you both and keep them updated on your wellbeing.

If you are thinking about not telling your family, please consider the distress it may cause them if they are not told where you are. It can also be a disadvantage to you if you need money for anything in prison or fall ill. Furthermore, family or friends could find out the reasons for your arrest and detention via the media or internet.

To save costs, your families can get in touch with the Consular Directorate in London.

Consular Assistance
Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office
King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AH
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7008 1500

What will the Embassy do?

- We will aim to contact you as soon as possible after being told about your arrest or detention.
- With your permission we will tell your family and friends you have been arrested.
- We will provide you with information about Prisoners Abroad, a UK charity who may be able to assist you financially. We will also provide information on local

lawyers.

- Although we cannot give legal advice, start legal proceedings or investigate a crime, we can offer basic information about the local legal system. We can give you a list of local lawyers and interpreters if you wish although we cannot pay for such services. It is important to consider carefully whether you wish to have legal representation and to discuss all the costs beforehand with the legal representative. In no circumstances can we pay your legal costs.
- We can offer you information about the local prison or remand system, including visiting arrangements, mail and censorship, privileges, work opportunities and social and welfare services.
- We cannot get you out of prison or detention, nor can we get special treatment for you because you are British. If however, you are not treated in line with internationally-accepted standards we will consider approaching the local authorities to make representation on your behalf.
- With your permission, we can consider taking up a complaint about mistreatment, personal safety, or discrimination with the police or prison authorities. Again, with your permission, we can make sure that any medical or dental problems you might have are brought to the attention of any police or prison doctor.
- If you have dual nationality and are imprisoned in the country of your other nationality, the British Embassy would not be able to assist you formally, under international law. Consular staff will provide whatever informal assistance the local authorities will allow.

Would I have a criminal record in the UK?

You should be aware that if you have been convicted for certain serious offences, such as sexual assault or drug offences, we are obliged to inform the UK police. It is therefore possible that information about this offence may appear if a Criminal Records Bureau check were carried out by a prospective employer.

VISITS

How do my family and friends arrange a visit?

Consular staff will contact the prison to arrange clearance for visits by family members and friends. Please note some prison authorities may refuse non-relatives. It is advised that visitors give as much notice as possible when wishing to arrange a visit. They will be required to supply copies of their passports. They may also be asked to provide evidence of their relationship with you.

Visit duration can last from ten minutes to two hours depending on the prison Director and the guards. Normally, visits involve talking through a partition or grill and sometimes using a telephone to communicate. In prisons where foreigners are held, "contact" visits may be allowed but usually only once or twice a year. A contact visit means you can sit either side of a table during the visit, however, prison guards will usually remain present.

Prior to any visit, Consular staff will give family and friends as much information as

they can about:

- What to expect on arrival in Thailand
- What happened when they reach the prison
- The "dos and don'ts of visiting"

Family and friends often find the visiting of a prison distressing. In order to make their journey less stressful Consular staff will be able to assist them plan their visit and let them know what to expect.

This can include:

- Checking visiting times have not changed.
- Checking how many visits you are permitted.
- Find out how long ordinary visits last; if "open" or marital visits are allowed; and if so, how long can they last?
- Find out what visitors can bring with them for you – regulations may vary from prison to prison.
- Find out if non-relatives or children can visit.

Recently, some prisons in Thailand provide the option for family abroad to have video call with prisoners in prison. The Embassy can facilitate the registration process with the prison.

Please bear in mind that all prisons vary and visiting regulations are subject to change by the authorities at any time. Therefore it is essential that you check visiting regulations with the prison or a Consular officer prior to arranging any visits.

How many visits am I allowed?

The number of visits allowed by family and friends varies between prisons. Consular staff can check how many visits are permitted.

Consular visits

The role of Consular staff is to support you and take an interest in your welfare. We are non-judgmental and treat all prisoners in the same manner no matter what crime you are detained for, whether you are on remand or have been sentenced.

We will visit you as soon as possible when you are first arrested, then twice in the first three months of your arrival in prison, then approximately every 12 weeks thereafter. We can keep in touch with you between visits by letter if you wish. During these routine visits you will have the opportunity to discuss any health issues, security concerns, your treatment whilst in detention, and any other general issues that you wish to raise with Consular staff.

After each Consular visit, our staff will complete a visit report, which will be disclosed to your next of kin, or designated contact, if you have agreed we may do so. If there is any particular information which you do not wish to be shared you can advise Consular staff of this during the visit.

What can visitors bring?

There are strict rules on what can/cannot be brought into the prison and regulations may vary from prison to prison. Prior approval is usually required. Generally speaking, items such as books and magazines may be allowed but must follow prison rules. Items such as toiletries and food normally need to be purchased from the prison shop within the main prison building. It may be possible for money to be deposited into your prison account.

PRISON CONDITIONS/SERVICES

Arrival at police station

Generally arrest leads to detention in police cells. You will then be interrogated by the arresting police officer. Dependent on the nature of the offence with which you have been charged, and the availability of bail, you can expect to spend up to 12 days in detention in police cells. You will usually be taken to court about 3 days after being arrested for your first remand hearing and remanded in custody.

During the detention in police cells, you may not be allowed to bring mobile phone and personal belongings into the cell. You have the right to ask the arresting officers to inform your relatives, Embassy or whoever you trust, of your arrest status and the place of detention at the earliest opportunity. You also have the rights to meet and consult with your lawyer in a private place, to have your lawyer, or anyone you trust, with you during police interrogation, to receive visits or be able to contact relatives as appropriate and to receive medical treatment urgently if unwell.

Arrival at prison

When someone is arrested and taken to prison in the first instance, any belongings that are not held as evidence or as part of the investigation will usually be sent to the prison, if they have sufficient space to keep them there. Unfortunately, it is not unusual for some belongings to go missing during prison transfers or at the time of arrest. You will expect to follow general interview, health assessment and body searches during your arrival in the prison. The British Embassy cannot store personal belongings on your behalf. The only property we can keep for you are your passport and driving license, however, these are usually retained at the court until the end of your sentence. Please note that your passport might be kept by the court as evidence of the alleged crime or as a condition of your bail in order to prevent you from leaving the country.

General prison conditions

Former prisoners say that nothing is guaranteed, things can change on a whim, and therefore advice of more experienced prisoners, plus your own common sense, will help you enormously.

Overcrowding in Thai prisons is a serious issue and therefore you cannot expect to be incarcerated in a single cell.

Access to money is of importance and will make things easier within a Thai prison. For example you may need to pay for your own bedding or mattress if available.

How can I receive money?

Friends and family are able to deposit money into your prison account in person if they visit. If they are in the UK, they can transfer money to the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office account. This money can then be deposited by Consular staff into your prison account or sent via postal order. Postal orders or cheque can be sent to the FCDO - see Annex A.

Some prisons have a limit of how much money you can have in your account at any one time.

In addition, Prisoners Abroad, a UK charity, can assist with funding for prison comforts and some medical care if you are not in receipt of any regular donations from other sources.

Can I work or study in prison?

Generally there is no work available within Thai prisons for foreign prisoners, although some British nationals have reported that unpaid jobs are available e.g. in the kitchen or clinic. In some cases you may need the help of Consular staff to be assigned work, so are advised to speak to your case officer if you are finding it difficult to arrange yourself and they will do what they can to help you.

Few Thai prisoners or guards are able to speak English, so it is a good idea to learn some Thai. Knowing the local language will help you to understand what is going on, communicate your needs and also ease the boredom of prison life (see Annex B which provide some Thai phrases that you might find useful). If you have the funds to pay for learning materials, Consular staff will try to provide them. There is also the possibility of funding for education courses through Prisoners Abroad. If you are interested, you should write to them for further information.

Can I receive medical and dental treatment?

Standards of healthcare in Thai prisons are poor in comparison to the United Kingdom. Poor sanitation, inadequate ventilation, extreme temperatures, lower grade food and people sleeping in close proximity to each other – often shoulder to shoulder - can allow the spread of infections. Colds and stomach bugs are common, and in recent years there have been reported outbreaks of tuberculosis (TB).

Dental problems are also common and treatment can be very difficult to access. The standard of treatment varies considerably. Please speak to your caseworker if you have any difficulty accessing healthcare.

The range of medicines available free of charge varies from prison to prison. Thai prisons have a small list of drugs that are dispensed without charge, but the bulk of medicine will have to be paid for. The prison doctor can prescribe medicines to be bought by the Consular staff on your behalf, although you must have funds to cover the cost. If you are in a prison some distance from Bangkok e.g. Chiang Rai, it makes sense to keep some money in the prison shop so the authorities can buy medicine for you should you fall ill.

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office liaises with the charity Prisoners

Abroad to help subsidise a welfare system which can cover the cost of many minor medicines. Prisoners Abroad also runs a vitamin programme which enables the Embassy to bulk-buy multivitamins for supply to British nationals. These can be deposited for you at the prison on a quarterly basis, however a prescription may be required from the prison doctor.

Food and Diet

The food ration for all foreign prisoners in Thailand usually consists of 1 bag of cooked rice weighing 800 grams and one Thai side dish twice per day. Any extra food must be paid for. There is a shop within all prisons, but the shop prices are always considerably higher than for the same items outside of the prison.

Mail/Parcels

You can receive and send mail directly whilst you are detained, although there are prison-by-prison restrictions on the amount, and there are rules about what you can and cannot receive. Also, post sometimes fails to arrive and you may have to pay a guard in order to receive a parcel.

Although you are allowed to write in English, letters are generally subject to censorship. This can mean that if no member of local prison staff is able to translate them, they will be sent to the Foreign Liaison Department for translation before posting, causing long delays.

The UK charity Prisoners Abroad can provide pre-paid, airmail envelopes upon request, however, usually a prisoner will be expected to purchase stamps from their own funds.

Please note - The Embassy does not accept parcels on behalf of British nationals in prison in Thailand.

Can I make telephone calls?

Telephone calls access is rarely available Thai prisons.

Some prisons have implemented video calling via LINE App. Consular staff can check if this facility is available and the requirements to make this available to family members. If this initiative is available at the prison you are detained in, it is best to give family a range of dates and times when you will try to ring. Hundreds of prisoners want to make video calls at the same time, so be prepared for a long wait and the likelihood of disappointment.

Leisure and entertainment

Prisoners are usually permitted into the prison compound for a number of hours per day for exercise and recreation. Unlike in the UK, however, there are limited facilities available for the purpose of entertainment and these will be dependent on which prison you are incarcerated in.

Drugs

As in most countries, there are reports of some drug abuse occurring within the prisons. If you are caught holding or taking drugs, punishment can be severe. If you inject drugs you run the risk of contracting serious blood-borne infections, such as AIDS and hepatitis.

How can I make a complaint about mistreatment?

If you have been tortured or mistreated, please inform Consular staff as soon as it is safe for you to do so. We will then do our best to visit you; to check on your welfare; discuss the allegations; and inform you of any local complaints procedures and supportive organisations that you may wish to consider. With your permission, and where appropriate, we may also be able to raise your allegations of torture and/or mistreatment with the authorities.

THE THAI JUDICIAL SYSTEM

Thailand, with its King as Head of State, bases its judicial and legal systems on the Constitution and in general follows a civil law system. There is a 3-tier court system:

- The Courts of First Instance;
- The Court of Appeal;
- The Supreme Court (the Dika).

The Courts of First Instance are trial courts that consist of general courts, juvenile and family courts, and specialised courts. All cases commence at a Court of First Instance. The Courts of First Instance consist of:

- The Civil Court and Criminal Courts in Bangkok;
- Provincial Courts. Each Province outside Bangkok has at least one Provincial Court whose jurisdiction is both civil and criminal;
- District Courts, which have jurisdiction over small cases i.e. civil cases in which the value of the claim does not exceed 300,000 Baht and criminal cases in which the offence carries a maximum penalty of no more than 6 months imprisonment and/or a fine not exceeding 10,000 Baht.

Is the system the same as the UK?

The Thai judicial system is loosely based on the British model although the main difference is that there is no jury for criminal cases.

Police are generally responsible for carrying out wide-ranging enquiries in order to make a case. Once their investigation is concluded the case will be passed, with a recommendation on whether or not to take any legal action to the Public Prosecutor. The Public Prosecutor then decides whether the case should go to court and, if yes, they will pass the case to the Court.

The trial is a final act of investigation and the judge is very much in control and will ask most of the questions. The rules of evidence are also different and the court normally considers the evidence presented on the case file.

Verdicts are decided by a panel of judges who will also in turn pass sentence. The court system operates slowly and a serious case, such as murder or complex narcotics case, could take as much as a year to reach the trial status.

Throughout these stages, you will mainly be remanded in prison unless you've been given bail. The time you spend in detention from formal arrest will be deducted from your sentence if you receive one.

For how long can I be remanded in custody?

After you have been remanded into custody, you will be moved to a prison. You will be required to appear in court every 12 days for further remand hearings. The prosecution has a total of 84 days from the date of first arrest to submit their case to the Public Prosecutor. In respect of more minor offences, the Prosecution have only a maximum of 48 days (rather than 84 days) to prepare their case and submit it to the Public Prosecutor.

What provision is there for bail?

Following your arrest your lawyer will advise you whether you are eligible to apply for bail. Bail can often be paid either at the police station immediately after your arrest in small cases, or in court if you have already made your first court appearance. If you do not have enough money to post bail, we can contact friends in Thailand on your behalf, or ask the FCDO in London to contact relatives or friends in the United Kingdom (or elsewhere overseas), who may be willing to help you. The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office is not able to facilitate the transfer of bail funds.

If bail is successful, you will find that the court usually keeps your passport. You are usually free to travel within Thailand during this period.

Bail conditions laid down by the police or court, such as residence or police reporting, must be strictly adhered to. Failure to adhere to bail conditions, or failure to attend a scheduled court hearing, will usually result in a new warrant being issued for your arrest and the bail money being forfeited. Similarly, any attempt to leave Thailand could result in re-arrest or the revocation and forfeiture of bail.

What kind of legal assistance is available?

Although we cannot give legal advice, start legal proceedings or investigate a crime, we can offer basic information about the local legal system. We can also provide you with a list of local English speaking lawyers. Prisoners Abroad (see address below) can also supply information on legal aid, court proceedings and advise on appointing a lawyer. If you do not appoint a lawyer, or cannot afford a lawyer, the court will appoint one on your behalf, if your charge carries a maximum penalty of 5 years or more.

The court has the discretion to appoint a lawyer for charges that carry a maximum penalty of less than 5 years. If you do not appoint a lawyer, you are obliged to accept a lawyer appointed by the court, and can only then change lawyer with the agreement of the court. Lawyers on the court appointed roster are often young and inexperienced, and speak little or no English. The court will only provide an interpreter if they want to speak to you. If you wish to address the court you must provide and pay for your own interpreter.

What happens at the trial?

Following the court hearing at which you are formally charged, the court will arrange for a “meeting of parties” with both the prosecution and defence to agree trial dates. If you plead guilty, and the charge carries a minimum penalty of 5 years imprisonment, then the court must hear evidence from witnesses. If you plead not guilty, or do not enter a plea, the court is also required to hear evidence from witnesses. The trial dates agreed can be a considerable way into the future – dates up to 2 years away are not unheard of.

There are certain aspects of the Thai legal system and the trial, which vary significantly from the UK system:

- both civil and criminal trials are conducted by a judge (or a panel of 2 or 3 judges in the most serious cases) sitting without a jury;
- all court proceedings are conducted in Thai;
- documents in a foreign language must be translated into Thai before they can be used in court;
- affidavits are generally not used;
- there is no pre-trial disclosure of documents;
- both civil and criminal trials do not take place on consecutive days. Evidence is admitted half a day or one day at a time. The trial can then be adjourned for a number of weeks, or even months, until the next date for admitting evidence. It therefore follows that trials can take a number of months (or longer) to conclude.

Court trials can take place over long periods of time and it is not unusual for witness hearings for the defence and the prosecution being several weeks apart. Sentencing is usually delivered around 30 days after the trial has ended.

Sentences

Sentences vary greatly in Thailand depending on the seriousness of the offence of which you have been convicted. Certain offences such as those involving Class 1 narcotics for example can incur substantial prison sentences including life or even death sentences. Your lawyer will be able to assist you further with information relating to sentencing guidelines.

How can appeals be made?

Please seek advice from your lawyer - If you wish to appeal against the court’s judgement you are entitled to appeal to the Appeals Court and then to the Supreme Court. An appeal to the Appeals Court must be made within 30 days of the date of the decision of the Court of First Instance. A further appeal to the Supreme Court must be made within 1 month of the date of the decision of the Appeals Court. It is possible for both parties to request an extension to the 1 month time limit.

Sentences of life imprisonment or death carry a mandatory appeal. Therefore, if you receive a sentence of life imprisonment or death and decide not submit an appeal, then the appeal will be submitted on your behalf.

You should be aware that the prosecution also has the right to appeal against a judgement. If neither side appeals within the time limit then the judgement becomes final. As the Supreme Court (second appeal court) is the highest court in Thailand and

their decision is deemed final in most cases. In some cases the defendant can make a final appeal by seeking a Royal Pardon. **For further clarification on how and when you can appeal a court's decision please consult your lawyer.**

What provision is there for reduction of sentence (remission) e.g. for good behaviour?

Generally within the Thai prison system, there is some provision for reduction in sentence for good behaviour. A six-tier system operates within the prison and has the following categories: excellent, very good, good, moderate, bad and very bad. All prisoners are initially placed in moderate class and can move up or down the class system depending on their behaviour within the prison. Prisoners can therefore receive some reduction in their sentence as a result of maintaining a higher class level and this is usually calculated during a Royal Amnesty.

What provision is there for early release e.g. on parole?

Unfortunately British prisoners are unable to be considered for early release or parole in Thailand. This is because Thai authorities require guarantees from the Embassy that we are unable to provide.

What provision is there for clemency or pardon?

In criminal cases once the appeals process has been completed i.e. the Supreme Court has passed judgement, the final recourse is to petition His Majesty the King for clemency, via a Royal Pardon but from experience they only granted on very rare occasions. The process of submitting a Royal Pardon Petition is complex and extremely lengthy. If you are considering submitting an application for clemency please consult your lawyer or speak to your Consular Officer who will be able to explain how you would prepare a Royal Pardon Petition; and how you would submit the application.

What about any financial penalties?

Is transfer to another prison within Thailand possible?

Although there is no guarantee that such a request will be granted, prisoners can apply via their case officer at the Embassy to be transferred to a different prison within Thailand.

Is transfer to the UK a possibility?

Yes. The Prison Transfer Agreement (PTA) between the United Kingdom and The Kingdom of Thailand was signed in Bangkok on 22 January 1990. It was ratified in London and came into effect on 06 February 1991.

You can make the request in writing directly to the Prisoner Management Board or write to the Embassy/Consulate-General. This can be a lengthy process.

A Prison Transfer Agreement (PTA) exists between Thailand and the UK (and between Thailand and Hong Kong in respect of British Nationals (Overseas)). Please see Annex 10 for information about eligibility and process of submitting request for prisoner transfer to the UK. Your Consular case officer will be able to explain how to apply for

a transfer.

What are the procedures for release and deportation?

In Thailand, it is common practice for foreigners who have committed offences to be deported after they have completed their sentence. This will mean that at the end of your sentence you will immediately be detained for a period of time within the Immigration Detention Centre prior to your deportation.

Can I come back to Thailand?

People who are deported from Thailand are usually banned from coming back for some time. The length of the ban can be from 1 to 10 years or more. The length of restriction differs from case to case. You can ask the deporting police officer about your ban but they may choose not to tell you. We will not be informed of such information.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Returning to the UK

Sometimes people find that they face difficulties adjusting to life in the UK once they have left prison. You may find yourself ready for life on the outside but not prepared for living in the UK. You might never have lived in the UK or have lived abroad for many years; you may have no connections in UK, or perhaps you have lost touch with friends and family. You may simply want to talk to another person who understands what you have been through, to help you consider what to do next. This is where Prisoners Abroad can help.

When you first arrive back in UK you can visit the Prisoners Abroad offices on weekdays between 10 am and 4 pm for advice; to take a shower; use their temporary luggage store; make essential phone calls or use a computer. If you have no belongings Prisoners Abroad may be able to help with basic toiletries and finding suitable clothing. If you know your release date in advance it is best to write and tell your Consular caseworker when you are likely to arrive and what help you think you might need. If you have no money and nowhere to go, Prisoners Abroad' Aftercare Service can help with –

- advice on finding emergency accommodation in the London area
- claiming welfare benefits, including emergency benefit payments if you are destitute.
- making appointments with doctors and dentists
- putting you in touch with local agencies if you are not returning to the London area.

Later on you may want advice on housing, looking for work, applying for training or getting counselling. Prisoners Abroad can refer you to the right agency. Other sources of practical help back in the UK are The Salvation Army and The Prison Fellowship (see address below).

Prisoners Abroad

Since 1978 the charity Prisoners Abroad has offered practical support and advice to British citizens imprisoned overseas. It is the only UK charity providing this service and it is available to all, whether guilty or innocent, convicted or on remand. Prisoners Abroad is concerned with your health and welfare, both during your imprisonment and also on your return to the UK, through their resettlement service (if you have registered whilst in prison). They can also provide support and advice to your family during your imprisonment. In order to access any services, prisoners must first register with Prisoners Abroad by signing and returning their authorization form.

Once you seek help from Prisoners Abroad, the Prisoner & Family Support Service will be your point of contact for advice and information. The type of assistance they can offer will vary from country to country, but generally they can provide you with information, in English, on:

- your rights as a prisoner and issues that may affect you such as health or transfer to the UK
- obtaining magazines, newspapers, books and the regular Prisoners Abroad newsletter
- writing to a pen pal
- learning the language of your country of imprisonment

- translation of documents
- grants for food if you are in a developing country and don't have funds from other sources
- grants for essential medicines and toiletries if you don't have funds from other sources
- preparing for release
- help for your loved one, including information, family support groups and assistance with the cost of visiting

Please be aware that grants for food will be stopped if you receive funds from friends or family greater than your monthly allowance. Prisoner Abroad grants must not be used for anything other than essential items and cannot be used for Emergency Travel Documents.

Prisoners Abroad
89-93 Fonthill Road
London N4 3JH
UK

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7561 6820

For relatives in the UK,
Freephone 0808 172 0098
(Mondays to Fridays 9.30 am to 4.30 pm, UK time)

Email: info@prisonersabroad.org.uk

Website: www.prisonersabroad.org.uk

Prison Fellowship International

Prison Fellowship is a Christian organization that gives support and help to people of all religions and those with none. It has members in 88 countries; they can visit or write to prisoners. If you obtain a transfer back to a UK prison, PF can help with transport so your family can visit. They also work with ex-prisoners and their families through their local group network.

Prison Fellowship, England and Wales
PO Box 945
Maldon
Essex CM9 4EW
Tel: +44 (0) 1621 843 232
Fax: +44 (0) 1621 843 30
Email: prisonfellowship@dial.pipex.com

Prison Fellowship, Scotland
110 St James Road
Glasgow G4 0PS
Tel/Fax: +44 (0) 141 552 1288
Email: pfscotland@cqm.co.uk

Prison Fellowship, Northern Ireland
39 University Street
Belfast BT7 1FY
Tel/Fax: +44 (0) 2890 243 691
Email: info@pfni.org

The Salvation Army

They can arrange to visit prisoners overseas through their international service.

The Salvation Army International HQ
101 Queen Victoria Street
London EC4P 4EP
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7332 0101
Fax: +44 (0) 20 7329 6970

Glossary of Terms

Useful phrases – English into Thai

English	Thai
Prison officer	เจ้าหน้าทั้รีเ็นจ่า Chao-na-tee-ruen-cham
Court	ศาล San
Police	ตำรวจ Tam-ruad
Prosecutor	อัยการ Ai-ya-kan
Hearing Session	ขันธ์ศาล Keun-san
Guilty	มีความผิด Mee-kwam-pid
Innocent	ไม่มีความผิด Mai-mee-kwam-pid
Jail/Prison	เรอ์เ็นจ่า Reun-cham
Lawyer	ทนาย Ta-nai
Complaint	การร้องเรอ์เ็น Kan-rong-rean
Deportation	การส่งกลับ Kan-song-klap
Embassy	สถานทูต Sa-tan-tood
Interpreter	ล่าม lam
Judgement	คำพิพากษา Kam-pi-pak-sa
Prison rules	กฎระเบียบ เ็นจ่า Kod-reun-cham
Release	พ้นโทษ Pon-tod

Sentence reduction	การลดโทษ Lod-tod
Sentence	จากคุก Cham-kook
Telephone call	คุยโทรศัพท์ Kui-toe-la-sab
Visit	เยี่ยม yeam
Diarrhoea	ท้องเสีย Tong-sia
Headache	ปวดหัว Puad-hua
Fever	เป็นไข้ Pen-khai
Toothache	ปวดฟัน Puad-fun
Stomach-ache	ปวดท้อง Puad-tong
Blood test	ตรวจเลือด Truad-leud
Doctor	หมอ Mhor
Hospital	โรงพยาบาล Rong-pa-ya-ban
Blood Pressure	ความดัน เลือด Kwam-dan-leaud
Food	อาหาร Ar-han
Vegetable	ผัก Pak
Vegetarian	มังสวิรัติ Mak-sa-wi-rat
Meat	เนื้อสัตว์ Nuea-sat

Annexes

Annex 1: [List of English-Speaking Lawyers](#)

Annex 2: [List of Private Translators/Interpreters](#)

Annex 3: [FCDO leaflet: *In prison abroad*](#)

Annex 4: [Prisoners Abroad authorisation form](#)

Annex 5: [Prisoners Abroad family contact form](#)

Annex 6: [Prisoners Abroad CFF form](#)

Annex 7: [Fair Trials International Leaflet](#)

Annex 8: [Procedures on how to transfer funds via the FCDO](#)

DISCLAIMER

This information pack was compiled by the Consular Section, British Embassy Bangkok. It is revised on a regular basis. If any of the information contained in this booklet is incorrect, please draw inaccuracies to our attention so that we can make amendments. We have tried to make sure that the information in this booklet is accurate and up to date, but the British Embassy cannot accept legal responsibility for any errors or omissions in the information. Local proceedings are subject to change at any time