Getting started guide, beginner

Game rules and Federal Jail

What Federal Jail is, how it differs from the city jail, how to appeal, and the common ways players get banned without meaning to.

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Introduction

Federal Jail is Torn's version of a ban. Players call it being "fedded". Unlike the ordinary city jail, which is part of normal play, Federal Jail locks you out of the game entirely. This guide explains how it works, what to do if it happens, and the habits that keep your account safe.

> **Note**
> This guide summarises how Federal Jail works. The rules themselves are set by Torn and published in its Player Policies and rules pages. If you are unsure whether something is allowed, ask Torn staff before doing it.

How it works

Staff send a player to Federal Jail when there is enough evidence that they broke a game rule.

City jail	Federal Jail	
Cause	Failing crimes and similar in-game actions	Breaking Torn's rules
Can you play?	Partly; many features still work	No; the game cannot be used
Can others get you out?	Yes, by busting or bailing	No

Federal reports. While in Federal Jail you can use the Federal Report feature to talk to the staff member handling your case. Their identity stays anonymous. You can give information that may help your case. Abusing the feature can lead staff to restrict it.

Permanent Federal Jail. If your sentence is permanent, you must wait at least 90 days, with staff approval, before starting a new account. A new account made earlier will also be jailed. Contact staff before restarting if you are unsure.

Other punishments carry on. Federal Jail does not cancel mail or forum bans; they can still be running when you come out.

Step by step

1. **Read Torn's rules** when you join, and again before trying anything unusual such as tools, scripts or sharing your account.
2. **Only use tools that respect Torn's API rules.** Share keys only with tools you trust, using the lowest access level that works; see Sharing your API key safely.
3. **Pay for donator status only through the official Donator House.**

4. **If you are fedded,** read the reason, then use the Federal Report feature to respond calmly with relevant facts.
5. **If the sentence is permanent,** wait the required time and check with staff before making a new account.

Examples

An honest question first. A player wants to use a browser script that automates clicking. They ask staff whether it is allowed before installing it. This is the safe path: automation that plays for you is commonly against game rules, and asking first costs nothing.

A calm appeal. A player is jailed for being linked to another account. In the Federal Report they explain, with details, that the other account is a family member on the same home connection. Staff can then review the case with that context.

Starting over. A player with a permanent sentence makes a new account after a week. The new account is jailed too, because the 90-day minimum had not passed.

Advanced tips

- Keep any discussion with staff factual and polite. The Federal Report is your chance to add information, not to argue.
- If several people play Torn from the same home or device, let staff know in advance to avoid confusion.
- Never give your password to anyone, including faction leaders. API keys exist so you never have to.

Common mistakes

> **Not confirmed**
> The causes below are general guidance drawn from the Federal Jail and Donator pages and from Torn's API terms. This guide has not yet been checked line by line against Torn's Player Policies page, so treat the official rules as the final word.

- **Buying in-game goods for real money from other players.** Only the official Donator House sells paid items.
- **Running more than one account, or playing someone else's.** Account sharing and multiple accounts are a common cause of bans.
- **Using automation that plays for you.** Tools that read the API within its rules are different from scripts that click or act in the game for you.
- **Remaking an account too soon.** Wait the full period and confirm with staff.

Sources

Torn wiki: Federal Jail: https://wiki.torn.com/wiki/Federal_Jail, retrieved 2026-11-23

Torn wiki: Jail: https://wiki.torn.com/wiki/Jail, retrieved 2026-11-23

Torn wiki: Donator: https://wiki.torn.com/wiki/Donator, retrieved 2026-11-23

Torn wiki: API: https://wiki.torn.com/wiki/API, retrieved 2026-11-23

Related guides: Jail and busting, Sharing your API key safely, Donator status and subscriptions, Common mistakes