
REGULATIONS, DATED JUNE 20, 1896, MADE BY THE SECRETARY
OF STATE UNDER THE PENAL SERVITUDE ACT, 1891
(54 & 55 VICT. C. 69), SECTION 8, FOR THE MEASURING
AND PHOTOGRAPHING OF CRIMINAL PRISONERS.

1896 No. 762

1. Subject as herein-after mentioned, a criminal prisoner may be photographed and measured at any time during his imprisonment.

2. He shall be photographed either in the dress of the prison or in the dress he wore at the time of his arrest or trial, or in any other dress suitable to his ostensible position and occupation in life.

The photograph to be taken shall include a photograph of the full face, and a photograph of the true profile of the prisoner.

3. The measurements to be taken may include :—
- The length and breadth of the head.
 - The length and breadth of the face.
 - The length and breadth of the ears.
 - The length of either foot.
 - The length of the fingers of either hand.
 - The length of the cubit and hand, either right or left.

The span of the arms.

The prisoner's height when standing.

The prisoner's height when sitting.

The size and relative position of every scar and distinctive mark upon any part of the body.

The external filament of the fingers and thumbs of both hands—to be taken by pressing them, first upon an ink plate, and then upon paper or cardboard, so as to leave a clear print of the skin surface.

4. An untried criminal prisoner shall not be photographed or measured while in prison save by order of the Secretary of State, or upon an application in writing signed by an officer of police of not lower rank than superintendent, and approved by a justice of the peace, or in the metropolitan police district by the commissioner or assistant commissioner of police, and all such applications shall set forth that from the character of the offence with which the prisoner is charged or for other reasons, there are grounds for suspecting that he has been previously convicted, or has been engaged in crime, or that from any other cause his photograph and measurements are required for the purpose of justice.

5. When an untried prisoner who has not been previously convicted of crime shall have been photographed and measured under the preceding regulation, if he be discharged by the magistrate or acquitted upon his trial, all photographs (both negatives and copies), finger print impressions, and records of measurements so taken, shall be forthwith destroyed or handed over to the prisoner.

M. W. Ridley,

Home Office, Whitehall,
20th June, 1896.