

Feds detail Ghislaine Maxwell's 'enhanced security schedule' in prison

By Ben Feuerherd

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Federal prosecutors said the checks are to ensure Ghislaine Maxwell's safety in the jail as she is being held in a cell by herself.

REUTERS

Ghislaine Maxwell is woken up every 15 minutes with flashlights by guards at the Metropolitan Detention Center in Brooklyn because the accused madam is on an "enhanced security schedule" lockup, federal authorities said in court papers Wednesday.

Federal prosecutors detailed the regimen in a letter to Manhattan federal court Judge Alison Nathan, who ordered them to respond to accusations from Maxwell's defense attorneys that she's subjected to onerous prison

conditions, including sleep deprivation because of the constant wake ups.

"MDC staff conduct flashlight checks every fifteen minutes because the defendant, while not on suicide watch, is on an enhanced security schedule," the letter by filed Wednesday states.

The checks, they added, are to ensure Maxwell's safety in the jail as she is being held in a cell by herself.

Maxwell's attorneys had previously noted that she's been forced to sleep with a sock over her eyes to shield herself from the constant flashlight checks by the guards.

Prosecutors had previously said she'd been wearing an eye mask — but walked that back in their letter Wednesday.

Ghislaine Maxwell is woken up every 15 minutes with flashlights by guards at the Metropolitan Detention Center in Brooklyn.

"MDC legal counsel has informed the Government that the defendant cannot be provided with an eye mask. Eye masks are not available for purchase in commissary and are not issued to inmates and, therefore, are considered contraband," they wrote.

Maxwell's attorney, David Markus, slammed the letter, calling it an Orwellian attempt to supplant her with accused cohort, Jeffrey Epstein.

"That would be laughable if not so frighteningly like something you'd hear from Orwell's Ministry of Truth. They torture her for her own well-being. Wow. Everyone knows that this torture is a direct result of the Epstein effect. It's not right," Markus said in an email.

Maxwell is being held without bail while awaiting trial for allegedly procuring underage girls for Epstein to sexually abuse in the 1990s and early 2000s.

She's pleaded not guilty and maintains her innocence.