

A Message from YOUR Private Security Services Advisory Board

PSSAB 2013 1st Quarter Newsletter

GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD

Hello Private Security Industry Members:

Thank you for taking just a few minutes to review this newsletter today. This communication piece is meant to keep YOU informed of what's going on in YOUR industry. We, as a board, are privileged to hear from many of you via emails and at our quarterly meetings. That said, we strive for an increased level of communication with industry members so that we can truly be your voice.

2012 was an active year for our industry and our board as we've studied, viewed, and reviewed a wide variety of regulations and proposed changes to our industry. We applaud the hundreds of you that became involved in this process with us throughout the year and we ask for even more of your passion, insight, and feedback as we move these items forward. Our industry is ever changing and your participation makes a clear difference in the direction, speed, and effectiveness of these adjustments.

Please note the meeting dates and communication methods available to you. We urge you to get involved or at a minimum, make plans to attend just one of the upcoming quarterly meetings to see what the Private Security Services industry is doing to remain current and progress forward.

In this newsletter, you will find several noteworthy items that we want to share with you in an effort to keep each of you as informed as possible on the current issues within each area of our industry.

With your involvement, we are stronger and with your input, we are smarter.

With your support at these meetings, we are more effective.

Sincerely,

Your PSSAB Board Members

www.dcjs.virginia.gov/directories/boards/pssab.cfm

2013 PSSAB Proposed Quarterly Meeting Dates/Locations

Date / Time: Friday, March 8, 2013	Winchester, VA	COMPLETED
Date / Time: Tuesday, June 4, 2013	TBD in Richmond Area	
Date / Time: Wednesday, September 18, 2013	Held in Association with Va. Crime Clinic Conference, Tidewater Virginia Area	
Date / Time: Tuesday, December 3, 2013	TBD in Richmond Area	

For additional and updated Information, please visit the Board Website <http://dcjs.virginia.gov/about/boards.cfm#pssab>

Notes from March 8, 2013, PSSAB Quarterly Meeting

Held at Golden Seal Enterprises, Winchester, VA 10:00am

1. The Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) report included a summary of the release of their January 2013 *Regulatory Affairs Newsletter*.
What a terrific summary of some of the progress made in their office. We encourage you to check out this document as it summarizes their offices activity level from the 2nd and 3rd Quarters of 2012. Impressive numbers to say the least. [Click HERE for the link to this document!](http://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/pss/newsletter/03-07-2013.pdf) (Found at: www.dcjs.virginia.gov/pss/newsletter/03-07-2013.pdf)
2. PSSAB seeks Official Advisory Opinion from the Commonwealth's Attorney General.
The Board has requested an Official Advisory Opinion from Commonwealth Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli regarding the following question: "Does the *Code of Virginia* prohibit a Virginia private security services business from hiring out the for-profit or non-profit services of a SCOP to a third party?" This question arises from the DCJS's

recently articulated position that the services of a SCOP (Special Conservator of the Peace) many NOT lawfully be hired out for profit by any business – even a private security services business. Members of the PSSAB, along with other private security service constituents have voiced a contrary view. We'll keep you posted!!

3. The DCJS report included a summary of the actions of the most recent General Assembly, which ended on March 3rd. For specific questions related to any House or Senate bill, please contact your industry PSSAB representative and we'll be glad to assist you in locating the most recent information regarding the legislation.
4. Remember that a full report of all PSSAB Meeting Minutes is available at: www.dcjs.virginia.gov/pss/pssab/minutes.cfm#pssab. These are typically posted (in draft form) within 10 days after each meeting, then updated as "approved" upon the next meeting's approval of minutes.

NOTES FROM YOUR LOCKSMITH REPRESENTATIVE

For more details: Contact Danny Washburn, PSSAB Locksmith Representative cot14u@aol.com

1. The new LSDA 5000 series locks are designed for use in high-traffic locations and where extra sturdy Grade 1 hardware is specified. They have been tested over 4 million cycles. Equipped with a U. L. listed latch bolt, these locks can be used on three-hour fire doors. The flat rose and the conventional lever style make this an excellent choice for retrofit applications. Grade 1 levers are typically specified for schools, hospitals, transportation centers and many other demanding locations. Lever locks are suitable for all doors that must meet A. D. A. and other accessibility standards.
2. Several locksmiths have asked how to file a complaint through DCJS.
 - a. A complaint form is available on the website at: www.dcjs.virginia.gov/forms/privatesecurity/pss_c.pdf
 - b. You may file a complaint by contacting DCJS at (804) 786-4700
 - c. Complaints may be submitted via U.S. mail, fax (804) 786-6344 or by email to ora.info@dcjs.virginia.gov
3. The Department of Criminal Justice Services, in coordination with several members of the Locksmith industry offered a press release in February 2013 as a public service announcement warning of fraudulent locksmith services. A full copy of this release and information piece can be found at: www.dcjs.virginia.gov/cple/documents/Locksmiths2013Warning.pdf. This document is very well written, and is just one piece of the educational and enforcement aspects of this particular issue.

NOTES FROM YOUR PRIVATE PROTECTIVE SERVICES REPRESENTATIVE

For more details: Contact Frank Phillips, PSSAB PPS Representative fphillips@goldensealenterprises.com

What You Should Know Before Providing or Contracting Personal Protection Specialist Services in Virginia

The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services regulates Personal Protection Specialists, also known as bodyguards, executive security agents or other similar titles.

Any **BUSINESS** or individual engaged in or undertaking to provide personal protection specialist services to another person under contract, express or implied must be licensed as a Private Security Services business by the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS).

- Businesses must obtain a Private Security Services business license prior to soliciting or providing services in the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- Licensed Private Security Services businesses are issued a DCJS license number (Example: 11-5432). This license number must be included on all business advertising material defined as display advertisements in telephone directories, letterhead, business cards, local newspaper advertising, and contracts.
- Requirements for a business license include: the designation of a compliance agent who is responsible for ensuring Private Security Services business complies with the *Code of Virginia* and Administrative Code (regulations);

fingerprint based criminal history background checks for owners, officers and directors of the company; and a requirement to maintain general liability insurance coverage or a surety bond.

- Private Security Services businesses must abide by administrative requirements and standards of conduct pursuant to the Regulations Relating to Private Security Services. These regulations (6VAC20-171 et seq.) are available on the DCJS website for review at www.dcss.virginia.gov/pss/code.cfm.
- You may verify that a business has a valid license number by visiting the DCJS website at www.dcss.virginia.gov/ps/directory/rocs/?facility=y [Facility Search] or by calling the Division of Regulatory Affairs at (804) 786-4700.

Any **INDIVIDUAL** who engages in the duties of providing close protection from bodily harm to any person must be registered by the Department of Criminal Justice Services and employed by a licensed Private Security Services business to provide these services under contract, express or implied.*

- Properly registered Personal Protection Specialists are issued a registration identification card by the Department of Criminal Justice Services and must maintain this registration on their person while performing the duties of personal protection. This registration must be produced by the individual at the request of a client, law enforcement, or DCJS employee.
- If a Personal Protection Specialist cannot produce valid DCJS credentials, it is recommended that potential clients do not conduct business with the individual as it is illegal to provide unlicensed and unregistered services unless exempted by law.*
- In order to be registered, a Personal Protection Specialist must submit for a fingerprint based criminal history background check and complete compulsory minimum training standards to include firearms training if the individual has immediate access to a firearm while performing his duties. In addition to maintaining a firearm endorsement with the Department, a Personal Protection Specialist must have a concealed handgun permit and permission from his employer to carry concealed while on duty.
- Personal Protection Specialists must abide by administrative requirements and standards of conduct pursuant to the Regulations Relating to Private Security Services. These regulations (6VAC20-171 et seq.) are available on the DCJS website for review at www.dcss.virginia.gov.
- You may verify that an individual has a valid registration by visiting the DCJS website at www.dcss.virginia.gov/ps/directory/rocs/Search.aspx?facility=N [License Search] or by contacting the Division of Regulatory Affairs at (804) 786-4700.

**Pursuant to §9.1-140 (8) a personal protection specialist who is providing personal protection directly for his employer and not a client is exempt from the registration requirement unless he carries a firearm and is in direct contact with the general public in the performance of his duties, in which case a registration would be required.*

Closing and Best Wishes

Please look for our 2nd Quarter Newsletter of 2013 within 10 days after our next Quarterly meeting (Tuesday, June 4th, 2013 in Richmond).

All of us at the PSSAB wish you the very best this coming Spring and Summer.

Sincerely,

Your PSSAB Board Members

Use this link for a complete listing and contact information of Board Members
www.dcss.virginia.gov/directories/boards/pssab.cfm