

Welcome to the third edition of PSA Watch in 2015, the ezine of the Private Security Authority. In this issue we have a message from our CEO and a report on PSA Inspections in Dublin on December 3rd.

Message from Paul Scallan, CEO

As we come towards the end of 2015 I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who worked with us during the year. Your support and cooperation is greatly appreciated and without you we would not have achieved what we did during the year. Among the successes we saw the roll out of contractor licensing to the Private Investigator sector, the extension of the employee licence from two to three years and the finalising of new training programmes for the Cash-in-Transit, Security Guarding and Door Supervisors sectors.

It was not all good news however, some projects stalled during the year because of vacancies at management level and I promise to revisit these initiatives at some point during 2016.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and hope you have a prosperous 2016.

PSA Inspections in Dublin – 3rd December 2015

On 3rd December 2015, inspectors from the Authority conducted inspections of commercial and retail premises in Dublin City centre to assess if all security guards on duty were compliant with licensing requirements. Our inspectors visited 86 premises and interviewed 143 security guards. All security guards interviewed and all contractors supplying security guards were found to be licensed. 7 breaches of the identity badge requirements were discovered and all involved were instructed to comply by our inspectors.

Further inspections are planned across the country in the future.

Information Seminar - E.R.O.

On Wednesday, 2nd December the PSA hosted an information seminar on the topic of the new Employment Regulation Order (ERO) which came into law on the 1st October 2015. The seminar was opened by Paul Scallan, Chief Executive and speakers from the ISIA, SIPTU and the Workplace Relations Commission (WRC) gave presentations on the day.

The WRC are the statutory body responsible for the implementation of the Employment Regulation Order. A lively Question and Answer session took place after the WRC presentation and the topics covered included application of the new rate, calculation of the new rate, other relevant legislation and the application of the WRC inspection approach. The PSA would like to thank all those who participated on the day.

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Feedback

We welcome your feedback on our ezine and its contents. We also welcome any suggestions for future issues. You can contact us at info@psa.gov.ie.

If you wish to unsubscribe or a colleague wishes to have their name added to our distribution list please let us know at info@psa.gov.ie

Thank You

Award for former CEO, Ms. Geraldine Larkin



Pictured: Alan Durnan, ISIA President, Geraldine Larkin and John McInnes, Noonans, the award sponsor.

The 2015 ISIA Annual Awards, held on November 21st the ISIA recognised the best in the private security industry. It was attended by over 220 guests including PSA Chairman, Noel Lappin and CEO, Paul Scallan. Among the nine awards presented on the night was The Premier Award which is presented in recognition of a major contribution to the safety or security of the island of Ireland.

This year, the award was presented to Ms. Geraldine Larkin, former Chief Executive of the PSA in recognition of her work in introducing regulation and licensing to the industry. Geraldine said she was accepting the award on behalf of the men and women in the PSA who worked tirelessly to “drag regulation over the line”. The PSA would like to congratulate Geraldine on receiving the award and thank her for her leadership during her time with the PSA.

Employee Renewal Period

This is the busiest period of the employee renewal cycle with almost 10,000 licences falling for renewal between November and the end of February 2016. Employers are reminded that they are responsible for ensuring that their employees hold a valid licence. If your employee has allowed his licence to expire without applying for a renewal licence then you are liable to prosecution for using an unlicensed employee to provide a security service.

We will be keeping a close eye on renewals over the coming weeks and will be targeting employers where we suspect employees have not lodged renewal applications. Using our online application process is straightforward so why not advise your employees to apply online before their licence expires as it is quick and easy to use and available 24 hours a day.

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