

Welcome to the first edition of PSAWatch for 2016, the ezine of the Private Security Authority.

Kevin McMahon



It was with great sadness that we learned of the passing of our former Board Member, Kevin McMahon. Kevin, who was an employee representative, served two terms on the Board and played a major role in ensuring regulation was a success. Our thoughts are with his family at this time.

Locksmith Licensing

The PSA will publish a draft of the standard to be used for the licensing of locksmiths in the coming weeks. There will be a short period for public consultation before the final preparations for the licensing of the sector begins. It is anticipated that licensing will commence in the second half of 2016.

2015 Licensing Statistics

Details on the number of licences at the end of 2015 compared to the end of 2014.

Contractors	2014	2015
Cash-in-Transit	7	7
Door Supervisor (Event Security)	27	44
Door Supervisor (Licensed Premises)	64	55
Private Investigator	N/A	64
Security Guard (Alarm Monitoring)	39	39
Security Guard (CCTV Monitoring)	21	28
Security Guard (Event Security)	31	51
Security Guard (Static)	214	202
Electronic Security Sectors	666	733
Temporary Licences	78	66
Total Contractors	1,147	1,289
Employees	2014	2015
Cash-in-Transit	1,050	1,139
Door Supervisor (Licensed Premises)	4,632	4,302
Security Guard (Static)	15,639	16,553
Combined Door Supervisor/Security Guard	6,360	6,787
Total Employees	27,681	28,781

Licensing of Guarding Supervisors

The PSA will shortly circulate proposals on the licensing of persons employed as Guarding Supervisors. The PSA are concerned that some employers and individuals are using the term supervisor to avoid applying for a licence. The PSA will begin consultations with industry stakeholders on the matter in the coming weeks.

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Latest News

CONTENTS

- Kevin McMahon
- Locksmith Licensing
- 2015 Licensing Statistics
- Licensing of Guarding Supervisors
- 3 year licence
- Employee Renewal Period

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

3 year licence

The PSA, following approval by the Minister for Justice and Equality, has increased the duration of employee licences from two years to three years, this came into effect on the 1st December 2015. There was also a slight increase in the licence fee from that date as set out in the table below:

Type of Licence	Duration of Licence	Cost of Licence
Cash In Transit	3 years	€150
Door Supervisor Licence	3 years	€150
Security Guard Licence	3 years	€90
Combined Door Supervisor and Security Guard Licence	3 years	€220

As a result of these changes all licence holders saw a reduction in the average annual cost of their licence from December 1st 2015. This applied only to licence holders whose licence expired after that date. Licence holders whose licence expired before that date were not eligible for the new 3 year licence, even if a late renewal is lodged. The new 3 year licence is now being granted to all first time licences issued since the 1st of December. Licence holders can renew their licence online at www.psaonlineapplication.com

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. If an employee submits an application and it is received by the Authority before the expiry date then the employee has a legal right to continue to work in the licensed sector while his application is being processed.

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