

*Welcome to the second edition of PSAWatch in 2016, the ezine of the Private Security Authority.*

## **New Online Renewal System**

As part of our commitment to improving services to licence holders, the PSA launched the first phase of its new online application service on the 25<sup>th</sup> May 2016. Phase 1 provides for an online renewal system for employee licensing. Employees will now receive an email with a PIN number in advance of the expiry of their licence. They will then be able to log into the renewal system and apply and pay for their licence online. The new system will be accessible via our website, [www.psa.gov.ie](http://www.psa.gov.ie).

The second phase of development will see the renewal system extended to contractor licensing and further new services will be added in the future.

## **Non EEA Nationals**

Employers should ensure that employees who are non EEA Nationals have the required permissions to work in the security industry. Holding a Private Security Services Licence does not permit the holder to take up employment if they do not have permission to do so. Contractors who employ non EEA Nationals without the correct permissions may have their licence suspended or revoked.

The EEA comprises of the member states of the European Union together with Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein. Information on permits can be obtained from the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation ([www.djei.ie](http://www.djei.ie)).

## **New Legislation**

Two pieces of legislation which have relevance to PSA licensing commenced recently.

### **The Criminal Justice (Spent Convictions and Certain Disclosures) Act 2016**

provides that a range of minor offences will become spent after seven years. The provisions of the Act do not apply to persons who are vetted by the PSA for licensing purposes (Section 11(1)(f)). **Persons completing vetting forms for PSA licensing must continue to disclose all offences.**

### **The National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Act 2012**

provides for the use of soft information in regard to vetting, referred to in the Act as “specified information”. Specified information is information other than a court determined criminal conviction and the Act provides that such “specified information” is only disclosed where it raises a bona-fide concern that a person poses a threat to children or vulnerable person.

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**Latest News**

## CONTENTS

- New Online Renewal System
- Non EEA Nationals
- New Legislation
- Compliance News

## *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](mailto: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](mailto:info@psa.gov.ie)*

*Thank You*

## New Legislation (Continued)

The Act lists in detail the types of work or activities for which soft information is disclosed. These include:

- Childcare services.
- Schools.
- Hospitals and health services.
- Residential services or accommodation for children or vulnerable persons.
- Treatment, therapy or counselling services for children or vulnerable persons.
- Provision of leisure, sporting or physical activities to children or vulnerable persons.

**The provision of security services is not a prescribed activity under the Act.** If you provide a security service at a location where the types of work/activities listed in the Act take place you should clarify with the provider of these types of work/activities if vetting in accordance with the Act is required. If required, the provider should arrange for the vetting to be completed. **The PSA does not vet people for compliance with the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Act 2012. Any queries on the matter should be addressed to the provider of the types of work/activities listed in the Act.**

## Compliance News

In the first 3 months of 2016, the PSA commenced 204 enforcement cases. The table below shows the compliance actions taken against licensees during the period.

Compliance Actions	Issued
REVOCATIONS	4
SUSPENSIONS	1
REPRIMANDS	0
WARNINGS	24
CAUTIONS	5
ADVICES	1

The following are details of the licences revoked in the first 3 months of 2016.

Contractor	Region	Sector
Denis Henry T/A AF Security	Kerry	Electronic Security Installer
Michael O'Rourke T/A O'Rourke Security	Kerry	Electronic Security Installer
Beacon Point Security Services Limited	Wicklow	Security Guard (Static)
Stuart Event Security Limited	England	Door Supervisor (Event) and Security Guard (Event)

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