

An tÚdarás Slándála Príobháidí The Private Security Authority

# October 2021

## **Annual Report for 2020**

The Minister for State at the Department of Justice, Hildegarde Naughton TD, announced the publication of the PSA's 2020 Annual Report on 26<sup>th</sup> October.

The Report provides a detailed overview of key developments, performance and general statistics on the work of the Authority, and includes the 2020 Financial Statements as certified by the Comptroller and Auditor General.

Further details on Minister of State Naughton's statement and the Annual Report are available on the Authority's website <u>here.</u> The report is also available on the publications page of our website.

# Appointments to the Board of the PSA

The Minister for Justice is seeking expressions of interest from suitably qualified and experienced persons for consideration for appointment to fill 4 vacancies on the Board of the Private Security Authority.

The website www.stateboards.ie is the channel used by the Public Appointments Service to both inform the public of vacancies on State Boards and to collate expressions of interest in those roles for the Minister.

Further details can be found on the Public Appointments Service website, <u>www.stateboards.ie</u>. The closing date is **15:00 on Wednesday 10th November 2021**.

## **Fraudulent Phone Calls**

We are aware of fraudulent phone calls, claiming to be from the PSA and stating that the licence is to be revoked due to criminal activity.

The PSA will never call a licence holder to tell them their licence is being revoked. This information will always be transmitted in writing.

If you receive such a call or text, please do not engage with the caller and do not share any part of your personal information with them.

If you have provided any such information to a caller that you believe to be a scam call or scam text, please contact the Gardaí immediately.

### PSA Contact Details

An tÚdarás Slándála Príobháidí The Private Security Authority Davis Street, Tipperary, Co. Tipperary, E34 PY91

T: 062-32600 E: <u>info@psa-gov.ie</u> <u>www.psa-gov.ie</u>

#### 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



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### **Employment Regulation Order in the Security Sector**

A new Employment Regulation Order (ERO) for the Security Industry, was approved by the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment in April, 2021 and was due to come into force from September 1<sup>st</sup> 2021.

Following legal proceedings in the High Court challenging the underlying legislation the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment has issued a notice to inform all employees and employers in the Security Sector that until such time that these legal issues have been resolved, the statutory minimum rates of pay and other terms and conditions in the sector will remain unchanged.

# Cash-In-Hand and Illegal Employment in the Security Industry

The PSA is investigating reports of illegal cash-in-hand payments to door supervisors and security guards. It is perfectly legal to be paid cash provided your employer has issued you with a payslip and has deducted income tax and PRSI from your payment. Employers are also required to record all cash payments made to employees and to provide details of staff and payments to the Revenue Commissioners.

The PSA works closely with the Revenue Commissioners to ensure that PSA licensed contractors are tax compliant. Non-compliance with tax matters are grounds for taking action against a PSA licence. If a contractor is found to be paying cash-in-hand to staff without returning same to the Revenue Commissions the PSA will consider suspending or revoking the contractor's licence.

The PSA also has a Memorandum of Understanding in place with the Department of Social Protection which allows for the sharing of information relating to both licensed contractors and licensed employees.

# REPORTING ILLEGAL ACTIVITY IN THE SECURITY INDUSTRY

Help us to tackle illegal activity in the security industry. You can report your concerns through our website or by email to <u>enforcement@psa-gov.ie</u>



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# **Resumption of On-site Audits**

In line with Government guidance, Auditing Bodies will resume normal work practices from the 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021 with on-site audits for all contractors.

# **PSA Covid Requirements End**

The remaining Covid related requirements that contractors were following have being lifted from 22<sup>nd</sup> October. Contractors should continue to take account of all public health announcements.

# **Employee Licences Revoked June – August 2021**

Licence	Expiry Date	County	Sector
EM171522/22	06/11/2022	Dublin 11	DSP
EM166987/23	15/01/2023	Meath	DSP & SG
EM176431/23	03/06/2023	Cavan	SG
EM175109/23	24/06/2023	Dublin 12	SG

# **Employee Licences Suspended June – August 2021**

Licence	Expiry Date	County	Sector
EM173259/23	13/04/2023	Galway	DSP & SG
EM167993/22	06/11/2022	Dublin 9	SG
EM173838/23	13/04/2023	Westmeath	DSP & SG
EM158425/22	22/01/2022	Dublin 11	DSP & SG

The PSA reminds all employers that letters purporting to give permission to work pending application processing will not be issued to individual applicants by the PSA. Any employer presented with such a letter should report the matter to the PSA along with a copy of the letter if possible. For up to date public health information and advice please visit the HSE website; <u>https://www2.hse.ie/coronav</u> <u>irus/</u>

Enforcement Focus In the last 2 months our inspectors visited 275 premises to ensure that security guard licensing requirements were being met.