

# Bureau of Security & Investigative Services (BSIS) Fact Sheet

## Quick Facts - Security Guard (SG) and Proprietary Security Officer (PSO)

- Both *must* carry a BSIS registration card (“Guard Card”) while on duty\*
- A PSO may *not* carry a firearm or baton.
- An armed SG *must* carry a BSIS registration card **and** BSIS firearm permit while on duty\*
  - An armed SG *must* wear a uniform with a badge and patch while on duty
  - An armed SG may only carry a firearm that is a caliber listed on his/her BSIS firearm permit\*
- If a SG carries a concealed firearm while on duty, he or she must possess both a CCW Permit and a BSIS Firearms Permit.

*\*Both can work with a printout of the approved guard registration from the BSIS website and a valid photo ID while waiting for the hard copy card in the mail. An armed SG can also work with a printout of the approved firearm permit from the BSIS website while waiting for the hard copy permit in the mail.*

## Know the Difference - Private Patrol Operator (PPO) vs. Proprietary Security Employer (PSE)

| PPO   | PSE   |
|---|---|
| A company or individual that contracts with another business or person to provide armed or unarmed private security services (BPC 7582.1) | A business that employs <u>unarmed</u> security officers to provide private security services exclusively for that business (e.g., in-house security). PSEs are not allowed to contract the security services of their officers to any other business or person (BPC 7574.01) |

## Know the Difference - Security Guard vs. Proprietary Security Officer

| Security Guard   | PSO   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May not contract out his/her security services individually. Must be employed by a PPO or hold a PPO license (BPC 7582.3)</li> <li>• May only wear a badge when he/she is wearing a distinctive uniform. When a distinctive uniform is worn, a patch must be on each shoulder of the uniform that reads “private security” and includes the name of the PPO employer (BPC 7582.3)</li> <li>• While armed (firearm or baton), must wear a uniform with shoulder patch and badge (BPC 7582.27)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May not contract out his/her security services individually.</li> <li>• May only provide security services to his/her employer (BPC 7574.20)</li> <li>• May not carry a firearm or a baton (BPC 7574.01 (f))</li> <li>• Required to wear a uniform identifying him/her as security when interacting with the public (BPC 7574.01 (f))</li> </ul> |

## Unlicensed Activity Citation Authority

| PPO   | PSO   |
|---|---|
| • BPC §7582.3(b) & §16240. Up to a \$5,000 fine and/or up to one year in jail | • BPC §7574.32(c) & §16240. A minimum fine of \$250 and a maximum fine of \$1,000 |

Please email the Bureau of Security & Investigative Services at **[BSIS.IncidentReports@dca.ca.gov](mailto:BSIS.IncidentReports@dca.ca.gov)** regarding any violent incident you encounter involving a Private Security Guard, a Private Patrol Operator, and/or a Proprietary Security Officer.

Questions? Call (916) 575-XXXX (staffed M-F, 8:00am – 5:00pm)