



MARYLAND STATE POLICE

Maryland Department of State Police / Licensing Division
1111 Reisterstown Road
Pikesville, Maryland
Office: (410) 653.4500 / Fax: (410) 653.4036

ADVISORY

LD-PLU-24-002

June 4, 2024

Submission and Processing of Security Guard Employer Applications and Use of Force Reporting Requirements

In a commitment to provide better service to the public and private sectors of Maryland, the Maryland Department of State Police Licensing Division (MDSPLD) has developed guidelines for the submission of security guard applicants that are employed by Security Guard Employers. It is the intent of the MDSPLD to deploy these applications in the Licensing Portal which will transition all security guard applications and submissions into an electronic format. The date for deployment in the Licensing Portal has not been determined, however, it will be active prior to the effective date of the law.

Senate Bill 760 (2023), now effective January 1, 2025 per Senate Bill 729 (2024), includes the following definitions:

- “Security Guard Employer” means a person who employs security guards only to provide security guard services to the person.
- "Person" is defined in Business Occupations and Professions statute 1-101(g) to mean "an individual, receiver, trustee, guardian, personal representative, fiduciary, or representative of any kind and any partnership, firm, association, corporation, or other entity."
- “Security guard services” is defined in Business Occupations and Professions Article, §19-101(l) as “any activity that is performed for compensation as a security guard to protect any individual or property...”

Other than those exempt in Business Occupations and Professions Article, §19-101(n), Senate Bill 760 (SB 760) will require all businesses and individuals employing their own “in house” security or individuals providing security guard services, to have those individuals submit security guard applications for certification by the MDSPLD. Security Guard Employee applicants, who are not currently certified Security Guards, will be required to submit LiveScan fingerprints and attach the LiveScan receipt to the original application and submit it within the Licensing Portal. The Security Guard Employer will then be required to complete and submit the Security Guard application with the \$15 application fee in the Licensing Portal.

Alert Bulletins are a service of the Maryland Department of State Police. The content of this document is for OFFICIAL USE ONLY. Any request for disclosure of this document or the information contained herein, should be referred to either the originator of the Bulletin, or the Maryland Department of State Police, Licensing Division, 410.653.4500.



MARYLAND STATE POLICE

The MDSPLD is not currently accepting applications for Security Guard Employees at this time as we work to build the automated processes needed to accept these applications in an electronic format through our Licensing Portal. A follow-up advisory with additional guidance will be forthcoming at a later date. Security guard employee and security guard employer applicants are asked to compile their necessary documentation. Submission guidance will be provided as soon as possible.

Per SB 760, Security Guard Employer's employing five or more individuals as security guards, shall maintain liability insurance with a \$1,000,000 minimum total aggregate coverage. Security Guard Employer's employing fewer than five security guards shall maintain general liability insurance of \$500,000 total aggregate minimum.

Any Security Guard application submitted after January 1, 2025, will be subject to the training requirements in SB 760. See MDSPLD Advisory *LD-PLU-24-003* for further information on these requirements. Incomplete applications will be returned to the Security Guard Employer or Security Guard Agency.

USE OF FORCE

A Security guard shall report any use of force against a person while providing security guard services on behalf of the licensed security guard agency or for the security guard employer, to the security guard agency or the security guard employer within 48 hours after the use of force.

In the event that a security guard is seriously injured or disabled in a use of force incident, the use of force should still be reported, however the 48-hour reporting requirement is waived.

A licensed security guard agency or security guard employer shall, in accordance with the law, report any use of force by a security guard, while providing security guard services on its behalf or for it, to the Secretary within 48 hours. The use of force shall be reported on a form provided by the Secretary of the State Police. The electronic form, which will be accessed through the Licensing Portal, has been developed and is currently under review to ensure it complies with legal requirements. Additional information regarding the Use of Force submission requirements will be released prior to the effective date to allow sufficient time for security guard employers and training providers to familiarize security guard employees with the new requirement and reporting process. In addition to the use of force reporting requirements, more information will be forthcoming on the reporting process and how to access the form to complete entries.

The Employer of a security guard, providing security guard services on the premise of a healthcare facility, as defined in § 19-114 of the Health-General Article, shall report every 7 days to the Secretary of the State Police, on the number of Code Greens initiated for combative persons and code purples initiated for security-only responses, as those emergency codes are identified in Title 10 of The Code of Maryland Regulations, occurring in the previous 7 days.

Please direct any questions with regard to Security Guards and Security Guard Employers to Sergeant Christopher Hall or Corporal Erica Ambrose at mSP.securityguard@maryland.gov.

Alert Bulletins are a service of the Maryland Department of State Police. The content of this document is for OFFICIAL USE ONLY. Any request for disclosure of this document or the information contained herein, should be referred to either the originator of the Bulletin, or the Maryland Department of State Police, Licensing Division, 410.653.4500.