



Private Security Industry Regulatory Authority

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MEDIA STATEMENT

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PSiRA SERVES PAPERS ON THE MANAGEMENT OF A SHOPPING CENTRE AND REVOKES A SECURITY BOSS' REGISTRATION TO TRADE

Centurion-In the wake of appalling non-compliance by some private security service providers, the Private Security Industry Regulatory Authority (PSiRA) has dug its heels, this time around targeting delinquent Directors and vociferously writing warning letters to Shopping Centre Management entities which the Authority perceives to be complicit in the deliberate deployment of unregistered private security companies and/or Security Officers.

Following the arrest of two individuals (aged 46 and 29 respectively) on 12 May 2020, who were *unlawfully rendering a security service for remuneration, reward, fee, or benefit whilst not registered as a security service provider* in Addo, Port Elizabeth. PSiRA has now turned up the heat by withdrawing the individual certificate of the owner of this invalidly registered business and other violations which have now come to light and are a subject of police investigation. PSiRA is of the opinion that the service provider is not fit to provide such a service.

Therefore, Skimos Security Solution has been trading illegally. We strongly urge its clients and the public at large to refrain from doing any further business with it.

Sending a chilling warning to like-minded persons masquerading as legitimate security service providers, the Authority's Executive Head of Law Enforcement, Adv Linda Mbanja, did not hold back any punches, "Private Security service providers conducting themselves contrary to the rule of law and the industry's regulations will face devastating consequences. Equally, we urge the public, particularly consumers of private security services to always check whether their service providers are registered with PSiRA or not."

In an unrelated matter, the Authority has served papers on a shopping centre Management in Hammanskraal, Pretoria, for using the services of a withdrawn security company, Parkpro Security. PSIR Act places an explicit legal onus on consumers of private security services to

only use legitimate and registered security service providers. In terms of section 38(3) (g) of the Act, consumers can be criminally prosecuted for intentionally or negligently using the services of security businesses which are non-compliant with this Act that came into force on 14 February 2002.

Using an unregistered security service provider at any shopping centre or outlet is a serious offence as it is contrary to section 20 of the said the private security Act and Management of the shopping outfit will therefore become liable for knowingly using the services of a security service provider contrary to the provisions of the Act.

Advocate Mbanja said, “a client of a security business will thus have to make a reasonable enquiry as to the legitimacy of the security business, its officials and persons deployed by it to provide a security service, before making use of its service.”

To verify whether a private security company and/or Security Officer is registered or otherwise, please download PSiRA App or do online verification on our Website, www.psiira.co.za.

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