



Private Security Industry Regulatory
Authority

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INDUSTRY CIRCULAR

TO: SECURITY SERVICE PROVIDERS
FROM: DIRECTOR/CEO PSiRA
SUBJECT: PAYMENT OF PSiRA ANNUAL FEES FOR 2020/2021
DATE: 09 APRIL 2020

BACKGROUND

The Authority published Reviewed Annual Fees Regulations, Gazette No. 43148 Vol. 657 for the attention of all security service providers who render security services in the industry on 25 March 2020.

PSiRA, a self-funding entity, reviews the annual fees for the private security industry as part of its revenue-generating strategy, to ensure that there is adequate funding/budget for the Authority to execute its primary mandate of regulation.

PURPOSE OF THE NOTICE

Following the declaration of national lockdown proclaimed by the State President in an effort to curb the spread of the Coronavirus pandemic. In terms of the amended regulations made under section 27(2) of the Disaster Management Act 2002, private security services have been classified as one of the identified essential services. The purpose of this communication is to reiterate the Authority's position in respect of annual fees payable to it in terms of the published Regulations. Most importantly, this circular serves to inform all security service providers of their obligation in respect of paying annual fees. Moreover, to share some of the relief measures available to the security service providers who might be affected by the COVID-19 lockdown's ramifications*.

ADVENT OF COVID-19

Private Security has been included as part of the essential services in terms of the Disaster Management regulations. This is an acknowledgement that the industry is a commodity and some of our members will continue to operate especially those who will be providing the following services:

- guarding certain individuals and business clients.
- helping to manage human traffic at apartment complexes, roadblocks and
- other essential services such as grocery stores and cash in transit operations.

On the other hand, the Authority is mindful of the possible financial challenges facing some of our security service providers due to the lock down imposed in an effort to combat the coronavirus outbreak. This might take the form of cutting a lot of the economic activity due to the closure of most government departments, shops, malls and other establishments not considered essential service but previously serviced by security service providers.

THE ANNUAL FEES' REGULATIONS

In order to combat the possible negative impact of the lockdown on some of the security service providers, the Authority has looked into the regulations to see if there are available exceptions that can be employed to deal with the current situation. Over and above the provisions of Regulation 7(3)(d) and (e) which provides for a relaxed method of paying annual fees by certain categories of security service providers, Regulation 7(5) provides that:

"Nothing in this regulation prevents a written agreement being entered into between the Board and any security business regarding the method and date of payment of the prescribed amount."

Therefore, the Authority wishes to remind all security providers who are or could be negatively impacted to invoke the provisions of the abovementioned provisions of the Annual Fees Regulations. Each case will of course be treated on its merit taking into account all relevant documentary proof the Director may request from the applicant security service provider.

EMPLOYEES IN GENERAL

Please take note that there is a Government Plan of Action for those impacted in a form of an emergency National Disaster Benefit Fund which is expected to dispense R30 billion from the Unemployment Insurance Fund for qualifying employees whose salaries will be impacted during lockdown. The workers will receive a R3 500 minimum wage for three months due to the pandemic. We therefore urge all employers of security officers to take heed of the said fund and assist affected employees accordingly.

COMPLIANCE ISSUES

The Authority calls on all members of the industry to take note that non-payment of fees as stipulated is a contravention of the Regulations.

Failure to deduct and pay over the stipulated fee or the outstanding portion thereof, will result in termination of services and charges in terms of the Code of Conduct for Security Service Providers, 2003 may be preferred.

The Authority wishes to take this opportunity to wish everyone in the industry 'all of the best' in these trying times of novel challenges.

Further enquiries could be forwarded to us on info@psira.co.za.

Issued by

the Private Security Industry Regulatory Authority

April 2020



Manabela Sam Chauke
Director/CEO