

FIRST DRAFT LANGUAGE

**Law Enforcement and the
Bureau of Security & Investigative Services (BSIS)**

What does BSIS do?

BSIS is a consumer protection agency with a statutory mandate to regulate various private security professions in California. Specifically, BSIS licenses and regulates:

- Alarm Company Operators & Alarm Agents
- Locksmith Companies & Locksmith Company Employees
- Private Investigators
- Private Patrol Operators & Security Guards
- Proprietary Private Security Employers & Officers
- Repossession Agencies & Repossession Agency Employees
- Training Facilities (Firearm & Baton) & Training Instructors (Firearm & Baton)

Private Patrol Operator vs. Proprietary Private Security Employee– Knowing the Difference

While Private Patrol Operators (PPO) and Proprietary Private Security Employers (PSE) both employ individuals to protect persons or property, there are a few differences in what they are permitted to do:

PPO	PSE
A company or individual that contracts with another business or person to provide security guards (armed or unarmed) to protect persons or property, and to prevent theft or the unlawful taking of any item (BPC 7582.1)	A business that employs proprietary private security officers (PSO) or unarmed security guards to provide security services exclusively for the PSE. PSEs are not allowed to contract the security services of their PSOs or guards to any other business or person (BPC 7574.01)

Security Guard vs. Proprietary Private Security Officer– Knowing the Difference

While Security Guards (SG) and Proprietary Private Security Officers (PPSO) both protect persons or property, there are a few distinct differences in what they are permitted to do:

Security Guard	PPSO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A SG is not permitted to contract out his/her services. A SG must be employed by a PPO, PSE or hold a PPO license (BPC 7582.3). • A SG can 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) • Armed SGs must wear a uniform with Bureau-approved badge and patch designs and may only be employed by a PPO or hold a PPO license. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A PPSO is not permitted to provide security services to anyone other than his/her employer (BPC 7574.20). • A PPSO is not permitted to carry or use a firearm (BPC 7574.01 (f)) or a baton. • A PPSO is not required to wear a distinctive uniform (BPC 7574.01 (f)).

How law enforcement can support BSIS

1. Violent Incident Reporting

Given that local law enforcement is often the first responder at the scene of a violent incident, providing BSIS information regarding violent incidents in which BSIS licensees are involved while on duty will help ensure BSIS is aware of the occurrence. **Please submit your information by e-mail to BSIS.IncidentReports@dca.ca.gov and include your name and a contact number.**

Current law requires Private Patrol Operators, Security Guards, and Alarm Company Operators and their employees to submit an Incident Report form to the Bureau within seven (7) days of an incident involving a physical altercation, discharge and/or use of a firearm, or the use of a deadly weapon while on duty (BPC 7583.4 & 7599.42).

Also, Repossession Agencies, Repossession Agency Qualified Managers, and Repossession Agency Employees must submit a Notice of Violent Act form to the Bureau within seven (7) days after the occurrence of a violent act (BPC 7507.6).

2. Be Aware of Potential Private Security Unlicensed Activity

- Any person (including a SG or PPSO) who contracts to provide security services to a business or individual without a PPO license is engaging in unlicensed activity (BPC 7582.3 (b)).
- A PSE who contracts out his PPSO or SG employees to provide security services to a business or individual without holding a PPO license is engaging in unlicensed activity (BPC 7582.3 (b)).
- A person wearing a distinctive uniform identifying the individual as a security officer, is interacting with the public, and provides private security services to only his/her employer without holding a PPSO or Security Guard license is engaging in unlicensed activity (BPC 7574.32).
- If a person is providing security services to any person or business that is not his/her employer and does not possess a valid SG license or is employed by a PPO, then he/she is engaging in unlicensed activity (BPC 7582).

3. Utilize the BSIS Verify a License Tool to Check License Status

The fastest way to verify the status of an individual's license is on the BSIS website at http://www.bsis.ca.gov/forms_pubs/online_services/verify_license.shtml.

4. Use of Hard Copy Printout of approved license from BSIS website

Individuals who have applied for an initial license and been approved by BSIS for one of the following license types but are waiting to receive their license in the mail, may work with a hardcopy printout of the approved license from the BSIS website and with a valid photo identification:

- Repossession Agency Employee (BPC 7506.9 (e))
- Proprietary Private Security Officer (BPC 7583.17 (b))
- Security Guard (BPC 7583.12 & 7583.22)
- Firearm Permit **ONLY FOR** Security Guard, PPO, or Qualified Manager of a PPO (BPC 7583.12 & 7583.22)

Individuals who possess the following BSIS license types may work with a hardcopy printout of the approved license from the BSIS website showing a "CLEAR" status while he or she is waiting for the renewed license to be delivered via US mail:

- Locksmith Company Employee (BPC 6980.50 (e))
- Repossession Agency Employee (BPC 7506.10 (f))
- Proprietary Private Security Officer (BPC 7574.11(d))

- Security Guard (BPC 7583.20 (e))
- Alarm Agent (BPC 7598.17)

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