



State of Louisiana

*Department of Public Safety and Corrections
Board of Private Security Examiners*

April 19, 2024

Licensing and Registration Requirements for Deployment in Disaster-Affected Areas

All Private Security Industry Stakeholders,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and in high spirits. As you know, natural and man-made disasters pose significant challenges to public safety and security here in Louisiana. In times of crisis, we are grateful for additional resources to aid in our recovery. It is crucial, however, to have well-trained and licensed security personnel to protect the lives and property of our citizens. Therefore, we are writing to inform you about the licensing and registration requirements set forth by the Louisiana State Board of Private Security Examiners (LSBPSE) for deploying security officers to disaster-affected areas in our state where an emergency declaration has been made.

The LSBPSE, in collaboration with the Louisiana State Police Statewide Emergency Operations Center (EOC), has established a comprehensive framework to regulate and monitor security operations during emergencies. Additionally, the LSBPSE will coordinate with the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) and the Local Office of Emergency Preparedness (OEP) in the parish(es) where the emergency declaration has been announced. It is **mandatory** for all private security companies and individuals operating in Louisiana to comply with the following requirements before deploying personnel to disaster-affected areas:

1. **Licensing and Registration:** All Louisiana private security companies must hold a valid company license issued by the LSBPSE. Out-of-state private security companies wishing to deploy to Louisiana to aid in the response and recovery will have to contact the LSBPSE for coordination and registration. All out-of-state personnel will have to initiate a background check via a IdentoGO Louisiana Applicant Process System (LAPS) process, which can be done in their home state if the service is available or at a LAPS site in Louisiana. Additionally, all individual security officers must be registered with the LSBPSE with the appropriate registration level, i.e., Provisional Unarmed, Unarmed, or Armed. This ensures that only qualified and vetted security professionals are involved in operations in the affected area. For more information on LAPS sites here in Louisiana, please visit www.lsbpse.com and click on "Agency News" and then the IdentoGO LiveScan service icon.

2. Assistance from LSBPSE Staff: The LSBPSE staff will be available to assist with the registration process and expedite the background check after completing the LAPS process. They will provide guidance and support to ensure a smooth and efficient deployment of security personnel.
3. Coordination with Statewide EOC: The LSBPSE will report to the Louisiana State Police Statewide EOC, the central hub for information and coordination during emergencies. Private security companies must maintain effective communication with the LSBPSE to stay updated on the evolving situation and receive guidance on security operations specific to the affected area(s).
4. Communication with Local OEP Directors: Private security companies should establish direct lines of communication with the local OEP directors in their respective parishes to ensure a continuity of operations. This will facilitate efficient coordination and ensure that security operations align with a parish's overall emergency response and recovery plans.

Reference statutes that cover emergency response:

Louisiana Revised Statute, L.R.S. 29:723 – Definitions; paragraph 7 – “essential workforce” or “critical workforce” states that “a licensed private security company shall submit a list of their employees and their assignment to the Louisiana State Board of Private Security Examiners for any employee that the private security company wants to be designated and classified as essential or critical workforce.”

Louisiana Revised Statute, L.R.S. 14:329.6 – Proclamation of state of emergency; paragraph F – states that “Notwithstanding the provisions of this Section, except in an imminent life-threatening situation nothing herein shall restrict any uniformed employee of a licensed private security company, acting within the scope of employment, from entering and remaining in an area where an emergency has been declared. The provisions of this Subsection shall apply if the licensed private security company submits a list of employees and their assignment to be allowed into the area, to the Louisiana State Board of Private Security Examiners, which shall forward the list to the chief law enforcement office of the parish and, if different, the agency in charge of the scene.”

Louisiana Revised Statute, L.R.S. 37:3274 – Powers, duties, authorities and responsibilities; paragraph B section 11 states that “ When a state of emergency has been declared in this state pursuant to R.S. 14:329.6, authorize the operation of out-of-state private security businesses within the state and the use of its employees within the state for the duration of the state of emergency or for a stipulated amount of time after declaration of the state of emergency, not to exceed thirty days from the last day of the declared state of emergency, if the private security business:

- (a) Is licensed in another state in which the qualifications, insurance, training, and other similar requirements are at least equal to those required under this Chapter.
- (b) Has notified the board that they intend to operate in the state and submits all information requested by the board.

By adhering to these requirements, private security companies and security officers play a vital role in enhancing the safety and security of affected communities during and after disasters. The LSBPSE remains committed to providing support and guidance to the private security industry to ensure the effectiveness of security operations during challenging circumstances. Should you require further clarification or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the LSBPSE staff at info@lsbpse.com or 225.272.2310. We appreciate your dedication to our community's welfare and commitment to upholding the highest standards of professionalism in the private security industry.

Your cooperation and attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Carl Saizan
Executive Director