

**Private Investigators & Security Agencies Act  
Policy & Procedure**



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**I. TOPIC**

**Peace Officer Restriction**

**II. POLICY**

Persons holding peace officer appointments have direct or indirect access to confidential personal information. This is deemed to constitute a conflict of interest in licensing as security employees. The following policies apply:

- (a) **Police Officers:** full-time paid members of a Provincial or Municipal Police Force or a designated police force or a designated law enforcement unit including Special Municipal or Provincial Constables as defined under the Police Act of B.C. (excluding but not limited to peace officers as identified in paragraph “b” below), **will not be** issued a security business or employee license.
  - Exception – An individual who has retired from the police force but is still listed as a member for administrative reasons may be issued a licence, if they provide a letter from their superior officer affirming they have no access to CPIC, PIRS or other confidential information held by the police force.
- (b) **Volunteer Auxiliary or Reserve Constables:** **will not be** issued a security business or employee licence in the category of Private Investigator or Restricted (Under Supervision) Private Investigator. Peace officers under this section may be issued a security business or employee license in any other category if they provide a letter of permission from the Commanding Officer RCMP “E” Division, the Chief Constable, or delegate with their application package.
- (c) **Sheriffs:** **will not be issued** a security business or employee licence in the category of Private Investigator or Restricted (Under Supervision) Private Investigator. Working as a Private Investigator contravenes a policy of the Sheriff’s service.
  - Sheriffs may be issued a licence in any other category if they provide a letter of permission from their superior with their application package.
- (d) **Corrections Officers:** **will not be issued** a security business or employee licence in the category of Private Investigator or Restricted (Under Supervision) Private Investigator.
  - Corrections Officers may be issued a licence in any other category if they provide a letter of permission from their superior with their application package.
- (e) **Bailiffs:** **will not be issued** a security business or employee licence.
- (f) **Court Appointed Bailiffs:** **will not be issued** a security business or employee licence in the category of Private Investigator or Restricted (Under Supervision) Private Investigator.
  - Court Appointed Bailiffs may be issued a licence in any other category if they provide a letter of permission from their superior with their application package.

(g) **Other Peace Officers –not listed above such as Bylaw/Military Police/Canada Customs Officers and Federal Fisheries Officers, etc:** Provided their position does not give them special constable status, an applicant **may be issued** a security business or employee licence in any category (subject to section 3 (7) and section 10 (6) PISA Act) if they provide a letter of permission from their superior with their application package.

### III. PROCEDURE

1. Applicants for security employee licence who are peace officers must include a letter of permission from their superior with their application package.

### IV. LEGISLATION REFERENCE

*Private Investigators and Security Agencies Act R.S.B.C. 1996, Chapter 374 (The PISA Act):*  
Section 5 (2) (b), Licensee's Activities Restricted, Section 3 (7) Security Business License and Section 10 (6), Security Employee License.

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Sandra Sajko, Registrar