

Backgrounder Document d'information



Ministry of Community Safety
and Correctional Services

Ministère de la Sécurité communautaire
et des Services correctionnels

PRIVATE SECURITY AND INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES ACT, 2005

Eligibility to Hold a Licence – Clean Criminal Record

The new Private Security and Investigative Services Act, 2005, was proclaimed on August 23, 2007, and is now law. The purpose of this new act is to strengthen the professional requirements for security guards and private investigators and to enhance public safety. The new act significantly changes the way the private security industry operates in Ontario.

Under the new act, a person is eligible to apply for a licence if they are 18 years of age, are eligible to work in Canada and have no convictions of a prescribed offence for which a pardon has not been granted. These are the minimum mandatory requirements under the act. This regulation lists the prescribed offences that will prohibit a person from obtaining a licence. In addition, the registrar of the Private Security and Investigative Services Branch retains the authority to refuse a licence to an individual or a security agency under a number of discretionary grounds including other offences not listed in this regulation (see Hearings and Appeals backgrounder).

If you are a licence holder and you are convicted of any of the prescribed offences, you are no longer eligible to hold a licence and must return your licence to the registrar of the Private Security and Investigative Services Guards Branch within five (5) days of that conviction.

For more information, please contact:

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To view the act and/or its regulations in their entirety, visit:

www.e-laws.gov.on.ca.