



**Bureau of Experts at the Council of Ministers**  
**Official Translation Department**

**Law of Private Security Services**

Royal Decree No. M/24  
August 13, 2005

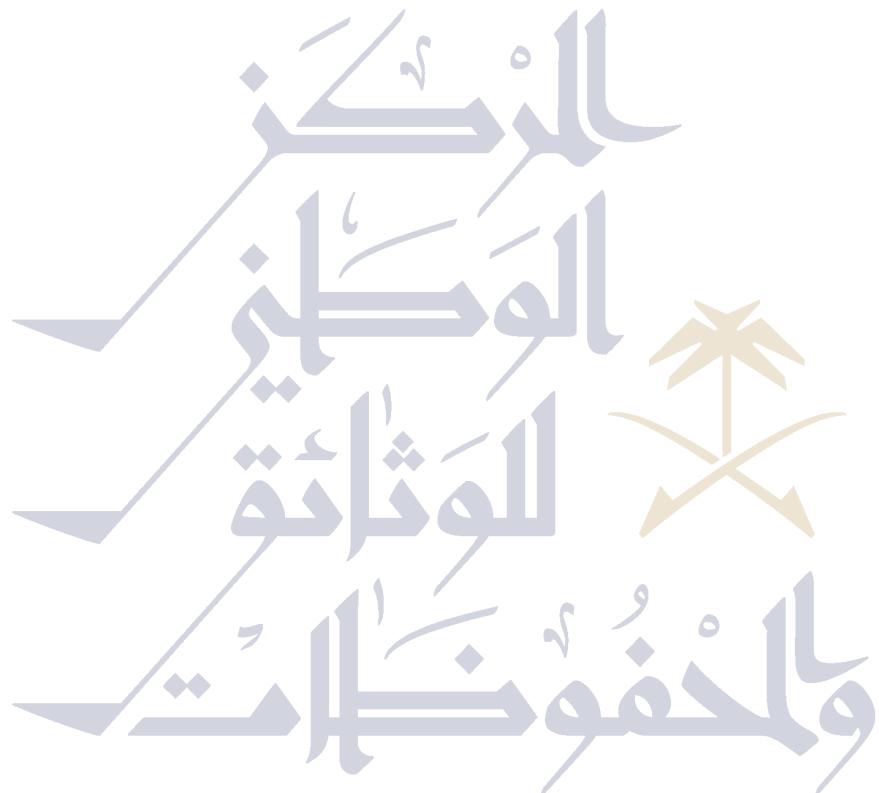
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**NOTE:**

The translation of Saudi laws takes the following into consideration:

- Words used in the singular form include the plural and vice versa.
- Words used in the masculine form include the feminine.
- Words used in the present tense include the present as well as the future.
- The word “person” or “persons” and their related pronouns (he, his, him, they, their, them) refer to a natural and legal person.



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## Law of Private Security Services

### Article 1

In this Law, the following terms and phrases shall have the meanings assigned thereto, unless the context requires otherwise:

**Private security services:** Security services provided for a fee by licensed companies and firms upon request, or acquired through direct contracting with licensed private security guards.

**Private security company or firm:** A sole proprietorship owned by a Saudi national, or a company fully owned by Saudi nationals, that sets up and provides - under a special license - private security services for a fee.

**Security guard:** A person assigned to guard facilities to ensure the security and safety of employees, assets, and properties thereof and protect such facilities against theft and trespassing.

**Regulations:** Implementing Regulations of this Law.

### Article 2

- A. Parties specified in the Regulations shall obtain private security services for their facilities in accordance with provisions of this Law and its Regulations. No other party may obtain private security services without permission from the competent authority, as stipulated in the Regulations.
- B. The Regulations shall specify the scope, location, times, and tools of private security services.

### Article 3

Parties required to obtain private security services, as well as those who request said services without being required to do so - whether individuals, groups, or firms - may directly contract Saudi nationals licensed to work as security guards. Parties required to obtain private security services shall establish a security department if the number of guards employed by such parties exceeds 20. The Regulations shall determine the duties and obligations of said department.

### Article 4

- A. Sole proprietorships and companies licensed to provide private security services shall comply with the following conditions:
  1. The sole proprietorship must be owned by a Saudi national, and the company must be fully owned by Saudi nationals.
  2. The license applicant must be at least 25 years of age.
  3. The applicant shall not have been sentenced to a Sharia prescribed punishment (*hadd*) or imprisonment for a crime impinging on honor or



integrity, unless rehabilitated.

4. The applicant shall not have been dismissed from civil or military service on disciplinary grounds, unless three years or more have elapsed.
5. The applicant must have adequate capital and the necessary means to provide security guards and equip them with security service requirements and tools in accordance with the Regulations.
6. The sole proprietorship or company shall provide the necessary bank guarantee in accordance with the classification and conditions stipulated by the Regulations.

B. Licenses shall be issued by the Minister of Interior or his designee, and the license term shall be five years renewable for a similar period or periods.

C. A fee of one hundred riyals shall be collected for each contracted security guard upon license issuance and renewal.

#### **Article 5**

All employees of security service sole proprietorships and companies as well as private security guards must be Saudi nationals. The Regulations shall specify the duties and qualifications of security guards.

#### **Article 6**

A sole proprietorship or company licensed to provide private security services shall train guards and qualify them to perform their duties in accordance with the Regulations.

#### **Article 7**

Security authorities are authorized to inspect security service sole proprietorships and companies as well as security guards to ensure compliance with the provisions of this Law and its Regulations.

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Guards shall wear the uniform specified by the party they work for in accordance with the Regulations.

#### **Article 9**

Existing security service sole proprietorships and companies shall terminate the services of non-Saudi workers and replace them with Saudi nationals within 90 days of this Law's entry into force. To this end, a committee comprising representatives from the governorate of the province or county as well as representatives from the police and passport departments in addition to the labor office shall be formed to follow up on the implementation of this provision.



## **Article 10**

The Public Prosecution shall undertake the investigation and prosecution of violations of this Law.

## **Article 11**

- A. Pursuant to a decision by the Minister of Interior, ad hoc committees shall be formed as needed comprising three members, including a Sharia or legal advisor to review violations of the provisions of this Law and decide the appropriate penalty. Committee decisions shall be approved by the Minister of Interior.
- B. A person against whom a punishment decision has been issued by the committee mentioned in paragraph (a) of this Article may appeal such decision before the Board of Grievances within 60 days of being notified thereof.

## **Article 12**

A party violating any of the provisions of this Law or its Regulations shall be subject to one or more of the following penalties:

- a) Warning.
- b) Closure of the violating sole proprietorship or company's place of business for a period not exceeding one month.
- c) A fine not exceeding fifty thousand riyals to be doubled upon repetition.
- d) Revocation of license pursuant to a decision by the Board of Grievances.

## **Article 13**

The Minister of Interior shall issue the Implementing Regulations of this Law within 90 days. Said Regulations shall be published in the Official Gazette, and shall enter into force once this Law comes into effect.

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**Article 14**  
This Law shall be published in the Official Gazette, and shall enter into force 90 days from the date of its publication. This Law shall repeal all provisions conflicting therewith.