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HOUSE BILL NO. 152

Offered January 13, 2010

Prefiled January 5, 2010

A BILL to amend and reenact § 9.1-139 of the Code of Virginia, relating to electronic security employees; carrying concealed handguns.

Patron—O'Bannon (By Request)

Referred to Committee on Militia, Police and Public Safety

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That § 9.1-139 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 9.1-139. Licensing, certification, and registration required; qualifications; temporary licenses.

A. No person shall engage in the private security services business or solicit private security business in the Commonwealth without having obtained a license from the Department. No person shall be issued a private security services business license until a compliance agent is designated in writing on forms provided by the Department. The compliance agent shall ensure the compliance of the private security services business with this article and shall meet the qualifications and perform the duties required by the regulations adopted by the Board. A compliance agent shall have either a minimum of (i) three years of managerial or supervisory experience in a private security services business; with a federal, state or local law-enforcement agency; or in a related field or (ii) five years of experience in a private security services business; with a federal, state or local law-enforcement agency; or in a related field.

B. No person shall act as private security services training school or solicit students for private security training in the Commonwealth without being certified by the Department. No person shall be issued a private security services training school certification until a school director is designated in writing on forms provided by the Department. The school director shall ensure the compliance of the school with the provisions of this article and shall meet the qualifications and perform the duties required by the regulations adopted by the Board.

C. No person shall be employed by a licensed private security services business in the Commonwealth as armored car personnel, courier, armed security officer, detector canine handler, unarmed security officer, security canine handler, private investigator, personal protection specialist, alarm respondent, locksmith, central station dispatcher, electronic security sales representative, electronic security technician's assistant, or electronic security technician without possessing a valid registration issued by the Department, except as provided in this article.

D. A temporary license may be issued in accordance with Board regulations for the purpose of awaiting the results of the state and national fingerprint search. However, no person shall be issued a temporary license until (i) he has designated a compliance agent who has complied with the compulsory minimum training standards established by the Board pursuant to subsection A of § 9.1-141 for compliance agents, (ii) each principal of the business has submitted his fingerprints for a National Criminal Records search and a Virginia Criminal History Records search, and (iii) he has met all other requirements of this article and Board regulations.

E. No person shall be employed by a licensed private security services business in the Commonwealth unless such person is certified or registered in accordance with this chapter.

F. A temporary registration may be issued in accordance with Board regulations for the purpose of awaiting the results of the state and national fingerprint search. However, no person shall be issued a temporary registration until he has (i) complied with, or been exempted from the compulsory minimum training standards established by the Board, pursuant to subsection A of § 9.1-141, for armored car personnel, couriers, armed security officers, detector canine handlers, unarmed security officers, security canine handlers, private investigators, personal protection specialists, alarm respondents, locksmiths, central station dispatchers, electronic security sales representatives, electronic security technician's assistants, or electronic security technicians, (ii) submitted his fingerprints to be used for the conduct of a National Criminal Records search and a Virginia Criminal History Records search, and (iii) met all other requirements of this article and Board regulations.

G. A temporary certification as a private security instructor or private security training school may be issued in accordance with Board regulations for the purpose of awaiting the results of the state and national fingerprint search. However, no person shall be issued a temporary certification as a private security services instructor until he has (i) met the education, training and experience requirements established by the Board and (ii) submitted his fingerprints to be used for the conduct of a National Criminal Records search and a Virginia Criminal History Records search. No person shall be issued a

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59 temporary certification as a private security services training school until (a) he has designated a training
60 director, (b) each principal of the training school has submitted his fingerprints to be used for the
61 conduct of a National Criminal Records search and a Virginia Criminal History Records search, and (c)
62 he has met all other requirements of this article and Board regulations.

63 H. A licensed private security services business in the Commonwealth shall not employ as an
64 unarmed security officer, electronic security technician's assistant, unarmed alarm respondent, central
65 station dispatcher, electronic security sales representative, locksmith, or electronic security technician,
66 any person who has not complied with, or been exempted from, the compulsory minimum training
67 standards established by the Board, pursuant to subsection A of § 9.1-141, except that such person may
68 be so employed for not more than 90 days while completing compulsory minimum training standards.

69 I. No person shall be employed as an electronic security employee, electronic security technician's
70 assistant, unarmed alarm respondent, locksmith, central station dispatcher, electronic security sales
71 representative, electronic security technician or supervisor until he has submitted his fingerprints to the
72 Department to be used for the conduct of a National Criminal Records search and a Virginia Criminal
73 History Records search. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to an out-of-state central
74 station dispatcher meeting the requirements of subdivision 19 of § 9.1-140.

75 J. The compliance agent of each licensed private security services business in the Commonwealth
76 shall maintain documentary evidence that each private security registrant and certified employee
77 employed by his private security services business has complied with, or been exempted from, the
78 compulsory minimum training standards required by the Board. Before January 1, 2003, the compliance
79 agent shall ensure that an investigation to determine suitability of each unarmed security officer
80 employee has been conducted, except that any such unarmed security officer, upon initiating a request
81 for such investigation under the provisions of subdivision 11 of subsection A of § 19.2-389, may be
82 employed for up to 30 days pending completion of such investigation. After January 1, 2003, no person
83 shall be employed as an unarmed security officer until he has submitted his fingerprints to the
84 Department for the conduct of a National Criminal Records search and a Virginia Criminal History
85 Records search. Any person who was employed as an unarmed security officer prior to January 1, 2003,
86 shall submit his fingerprints to the Department in accordance with subsection B of § 9.1-145.

87 K. No person with a criminal conviction for a misdemeanor involving (i) moral turpitude, (ii) assault
88 and battery, (iii) damage to real or personal property, (iv) controlled substances or imitation controlled
89 substances as defined in Article 1 (§ 18.2-247 et seq.) of Chapter 7 of Title 18.2, (v) prohibited sexual
90 behavior as described in Article 7 (§ 18.2-61 et seq.) of Chapter 4 of Title 18.2, or (vi) firearms, or any
91 felony shall be (a) employed as a registered or certified employee by a private security services business
92 or training school, or (b) issued a private security services registration, certification as an unarmed
93 security officer, electronic security employee or technician's assistant, a private security services training
94 school or instructor certification, compliance agent certification, or a private security services business
95 license, except that, upon written request, the Director of the Department may waive such prohibition.

96 L. The Department may grant a temporary exemption from the requirement for licensure,
97 certification, or registration for a period of not more than 30 days in a situation deemed an emergency
98 by the Department.

99 M. All private security services businesses and private security services training schools in the
100 Commonwealth shall include their license or certification number on all business advertising materials.

101 N. A licensed private security services business in the Commonwealth shall not employ as armored
102 car personnel any person who has not complied with, or been exempted from, the compulsory minimum
103 training standards established by the Board pursuant to subsection A of § 9.1-141, except such person
104 may serve as a driver of an armored car for not more than 90 days while completing compulsory
105 minimum training standards, provided such person does not possess or have access to a firearm while
106 serving as a driver.

107 *O. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a licensed electronic security employee who*
108 *has a valid concealed handgun permit issued pursuant to § 18.2-308, and who may lawfully possess a*
109 *handgun, from carrying a concealed handgun for personal protection during working hours, so long as*
110 *the employee does not represent to the public that he is carrying the handgun in the course of his*
111 *employment.*