



## South Carolina Law Enforcement Division

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### APPLICATIONS FOR SECURITY BUSINESS LICENSES AND SECURITY OFFICER REGISTRATIONS

In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 40-18-50(D), § 40-18-60(B), and § 40-18-80(A)(4) the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) may issue or renew a contract or proprietary security business license, or an employee registration certificate to a person who is of good moral character and has a favorable background. There are a number of applicants who falsify their application forms by certifying they have never been arrested or charged with any violations. In accordance with state law, noting such arrests and/or charges is required.

Registration as a security officer confers certain law enforcement authority on protected property. Likewise, security officers are placed in unique positions demanding integrity, superior judgment, honesty, dependability, and respect for law. By law, SLED must set standards and determine applicant competency and integrity.

There are many who desire to professionalize the industry and ensure security personnel initially meet and maintain higher standards in order to better address the needs of customers. Reasonable registration standards will assist that effort. Applicants must understand that new and renewal applications require full disclosure of any arrest(s), criminal charge(s), and traffic citation(s). These offenses must be reported whether or not the applicant was convicted, went to court, or forfeited bond. Applicants must report all arrests or other charges on each new and renewal application and include any arrests or other charges made within South Carolina or elsewhere.

Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 40-18-130(A)(1), SLED Regulatory Services will deny any new, renewal, or transfer applications with **significant criminal records** and applications containing falsified or missing information. **Significant criminal record** is defined as a record that contains or involves:

- charges for crimes reflecting on an applicant's honesty, integrity, or judgment, and respect for law and authority;
- charges for use of violence or threat of violence against another person;
- charges for crimes involving moral turpitude;
- charges for crimes of violence as classified in S.C. Law; or
- multiple arrests.

Each criminal record will be carefully analyzed to determine its applicability under this program. Applicants will be required to locate and submit certified disposition information concerning charges where such information is not known.

Initial decisions concerning applications are issued by SLED staff members. Applicants will be instructed in writing concerning the procedure for requesting an appeal of a denial.

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*An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency*

