

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRIVATE SECURITY REGULATION AUTHORITY
FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 1, 2011 TO MARCH 31, 2012**

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. The purpose of this Ministry Paper is to introduce the contents of the Annual Report of the Private Security Regulation Authority (PSRA) for the period of April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012 and to provide an update on the operations, policies, structure, earnings and achievements for the period under review.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The Private Security Regulations Authority (PSRA) was established as a result of the enactment of the Private Security Regulations Authority Act, 1992. The mandate of the Authority is to regulate and monitor the operations of organizations and individuals in the Private Security Industry.
- 2.2. The PSRA has jurisdiction over the operations of the following entities and personnel and also grants, refuses, suspends or cancels licences as it may deem necessary for the purpose of executing its mandate under the Act:
- Contract Security Organizations
 - Propriety Security Organizations
 - Private Security Guards
 - Private Investigators
 - Security Trainers

The mission and vision of the PSRA are as stated below:

Mission

- To monitor and regulate the operations of organizations and individuals operating in the Private Security Industry
- To facilitate a closer link between Private Security and State Security in the interest of national well-being

Vision

- To promote international and professional standards and practices in the Private Security Industry

- 2.3 During the period under review, the Authority continued its thrust towards modernizing its structure and processes in order to meet its corporate and strategic objectives while contributing to the mandate of the Ministry of National Security in the maintenance of public order and reduction in the rate and fear of crime as well as the transformation of attitudes to private security awareness.

2.4 In accordance with Section 8 (1) of the PSRA Act, the Authority is expected to submit to the Minister an Annual Report within five (5) months after the end of each Financial Year, dealing generally with the activities of the Authority during the preceding Financial Year.

3. ACTIVITIES OF THE AUTHORITY

3.1 A copy of the Annual Report of the Private Security Regulation Authority for the period April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012 is attached as *Appendix 1*.

3.1.1 The Authority had set out to accomplish the following objectives for the period under review in order to ensure its relevance and sustainability in the Private Security Industry:

- Amendments to the PSRA Act to create the legislative framework which would facilitate a maximum fine of at least Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) for violations by companies for various offences committed under the Act, empower Inspectors as authorized persons, facilitate complete regulation of companies and individuals as well as set acceptable terms and conditions of work;
- Increase in fees currently being charged by the PSRA to permit the Authority to generate more revenue thereby reducing its 100% dependence on the National Budget as the fees were last increased in February 2000;
- Continuation of work with HEART Trust/NTA and NCTVET to expand the training mandate for the industry and ensure that all stakeholders are advised and apprised of the new competency based training standards which required for HEART Trust/NTA certification.
- Enhance partnerships with private and public sector entities in order to improve compliance with the PSRA Act and Regulations by security personnel in the industry. The Authority currently partners with ASIS International, Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF) and more recently the Tourism Product Development Organization (TPDCO). The latest collaboration was spearheaded by the Executive Director who is a member of the Product Quality and Security Awareness Committee of the Ministry of Tourism. This collaboration has resulted in increased compliance of Tourism entities with the PSRA Act. The Authority will seek to establish and develop greater collaboration with other relevant entities to further enhance compliance;

- The use of technology to be the driver in ensuring the effectiveness and efficiency of the Authority. To this end, the Authority will focus on technological solutions to achieve its strategic objectives; and
- Creation/delivery of an optimum customer focused atmosphere to facilitate a harmonious environment for clients and staff.

4. ACHIEVEMENTS

4.1. The PSRA has made significant progress in several areas during the Financial Year 2011/2012, several of which are listed below:

- During the period under review the Authority saw a 13.9% increase in guard registration and a 7.9% increase in the registration of companies;
- Strengthened collaboration with the HEART Trust/NTA in standardizing the training of Security Guards;
- The Authority was able to successfully monitor the operations of several illegal companies by visiting an average of four (4) non-compliant companies per month;
- Several meetings were convened with and presentations made to the Tourism Product Development Organization (TPDCO) by the Operations Department of the Authority on the registration process for Companies and Guards which have resulted in improved compliance of tourism entities;
- The Authority continued its work on the Electronic Archiving System, with the goal of streamlining the data base of the registry and eliminating manual processes. The initial data to be archived comprises all information on Companies and individual Guards and Private Security Stakeholders registered with the Authority since 1993; and
- In an effort to improve the service delivery to its customers, the Authority continued to offer flexi-time opening hours from 7:15 a.m. to facilitate customers who wish to conduct business early. This has yielded positive feedback from 70% of customers that have utilized the early opening hours.

5. LIMITATIONS

5.1 The annual report indicates that the Authority was faced with various challenges during the course of its operations. These include:

- Review of recommendations proffered for amendments to the existing legislation was deferred due to more urgent security needs/priorities of the Ministry and Country;

- Budgetary constraints resulted in no allocation being made in the Budget for a public education campaign and public awareness of the roles and functions of the PSRA;
- Delays in the submission of Monthly Reports on the movement of Security Guards from company to company resulting in monitoring challenges for the Authority;
- The inability of the Authority to meaningfully contribute to its annual budget requirements due to the nominal revenue it earns through the current fee structure which was last adjusted in February 2000;
- Untimely renewal of licences by Security Guard and Companies as well as the registration of all Guards registered to Security Companies;
- Matters being laid before the Court for breaches under the Act only attract a maximum penalty of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00), which does not serve as an adequate deterrent to Companies that seek to or inadvertently operate in contravention of the PSRA Act.

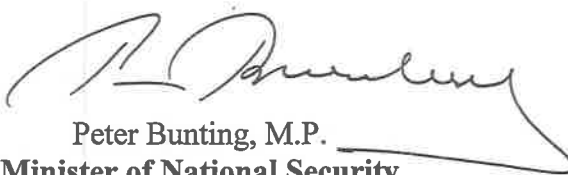
6. MEETINGS AND ATTENDANCE

6.1 Section 3 of the First Schedule of the Private Security Regulation Authority Act, 1992, states that members of the Authority are mandated to meet at least once every three months, or as often as is necessary.

7. SUMMARY OF INCOME

7.1	Approved Budget	\$51,725,000.00
	Subvention through the MNS	\$49,092,879.47
	<u>OTHER INCOME</u>	
	Fees Collected	\$ 7,439,598.00
	Miscellaneous Revenue	\$ 269,400.00
	Interest on Deposits	<u>\$ 2,137,386.07</u>
	Total Gross Revenue	<u>\$58,939,263.54</u>

7.2 Details of the salaries and emoluments paid to all Board Members and Executives for this financial period are outlined as *Appendix I* in the attached Annual Report.


 Peter Bunting, M.P.
 Minister of National Security
 4th April 2015