



# Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Department of Public Safety Standards and Training

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**Co-Chair Broadman, Co-Chair Evans, and Members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Public Safety:**

The Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) provides the following information in response to your question on whether the State uses private security entities or providers for security.

The State may utilize security for its property or the individuals who are located within State-operated buildings. This may also include personal protection (bodyguard) services for individuals.

When the State contracts for services with a private security entity to receive private security services<sup>1</sup>, the private security professionals are employed by the private security entity and assigned to perform security work at a location or for protection of an individual. Both the entity and the professional are subject to the DPSST certification and licensure requirements for private security.

When the State hires individuals who work for the state and perform private security services, those individuals are employees of the state and exempt from the private security provider certification requirements (ORS181A.845(1)(c)). Persons appointed or commissioned by the Governor to perform law enforcement or security services are also exempt from the private security provider certification requirements (ORS181A.845(1)(d)).

DPSST does not have data that would illustrate how frequently or where the State utilizes private security services in place of or in addition to utilization of law enforcement agencies and officers for security purposes.

Sincerely,

*Phil Castle*

Phil Castle, Director  
Department of Public Safety Standards and Training

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<sup>1</sup> ORS 181A.840 (9) "Private security services" means the performance of at least one of the following activities:

- (a) Observing and reporting unlawful activity.
- (b) Preventing or detecting theft or misappropriation of goods, money or other items of value.
- (c) Protecting individuals or property, including but not limited to proprietary information, from harm or misappropriation.
- (d) Controlling access to premises being protected or, with respect to a licensee of the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission, controlling access to premises at an entry to the premises or any portion of the premises where minors are prohibited.
- (e) Securely moving prisoners.
- (f) Taking enforcement action by detaining persons or placing persons under arrest under ORS 133.225.
- (g) Providing canine services for guarding premises or for detecting unlawful devices or substances.