

# Palau International Ship Registry



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## MARINE CIRCULAR 186.2

**To: ALL SHIPOWNERS, MANAGERS, MASTERS, PRIVATE MARITIME SECURITY COMPANIES (PMSC), REGISTRATION OFFICERS OF MERCHANT SHIPS AND RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS.**

**Subject: PROCESS FOR PLACING ARMED SECURITY PERSONNEL ON BOARD PALAU VESSELS**

### 1. Reference

- 1.1 MC 106.1 – Guidance for Company Security Officers on Preparing a Company and Crew for The Contingency of a Hijacking by Pirates in High Risk Piracy Areas
- 1.2 MC 147.1 – Anti-Piracy Security Measurements to Be Taken in Urgent Basis in Gulf of Oman and Adjacent Areas
- 1.3 MSC.1/Circ.1406/Rev.3 12 June 2015 revised interim recommendations for flag states regarding the use of privately contracted armed security personnel on board ships in the high-risk area

### 2. Purpose

- 2.1 The Republic of Palau, taking into consideration the actual situation in the High Risk Areas, has developed procedures for the approval of Private Maritime Security Companies (PMSC) and authorization of Private Contracted Armed Security Personnel (PCASP) on board the Palau Flag.
- 2.2 The purpose of this Marine Circular is to inform armed guard companies, ship owners, managers, and operators of the requirements and procedures for obtaining the approval for PMSC and for the authorization in order to place armed security personnel on board Palau registered vessels transiting High Risk Areas.

### 3. Applicability

- 3.1 This Marine Circular is applicable to all vessels registered with the Palau Flag trading in High Risk Areas and on which armed security personnel is to be placed on board.

### 4. General Requirements

- 4.1 The use of PCASP should not be considered as an alternative to Best Management Practices (BMP) and other protective measures. It is recommended that BMP be applied throughout the High-Risk Area (HRA) and in the Internationally Recommended Transit Corridor (IRTC) and be considered as the first, minimum, preventive option. Placing armed guards on board as a means to secure and protect the ship and its crew should only be considered after a risk assessment has been carried out.



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## 5. Approval of Private Maritime Security Companies (PMSC)

- 5.1 Private Security Companies providing armed security personnel onboard Palau shall be duly approved by the Palau Ship Registry Administrator. The process of approval will take 24 to 48hrs upon the receipt of the information including the confirmation of the fees for the approval.
- 5.2 The Company should submit the [Application For Approval Of Private Maritime Security Companies \(A.032\)](#).
- 5.3 Upon review of A.032 and in case all requirements are met, Palau International Ship Registry will issue an Approval Letter to the Company valid for three years. If additional information is needed during the review the same will be requested accordingly.
- 5.4 Palau International Ship Registry may request an audit to the company to be carried out in the PMSC Head Office. Such audit will be conducted to verify the information submitted.

The list of the Security Armed Companies approved by Palau International Ship Registry can be found [here](#).

## 6. Approval of Private Contracted Armed Security Personnel (PCASP)

- 6.1 The Republic of Palau requires that every personnel carrying arms on board Palau registered vessels needs to be duly authorized, therefore an [Application For Authorization Of Private Security Individuals \(A.033\)](#) needs to be provided for each person to be placed onboard.
- 6.2 Together with the Application A033, the following shall be submitted:
  - 6.2.1 Copy of Valid Passport
  - 6.2.2 Updated CV
  - 6.2.3 Evidence of no Criminal Record issued from the relevant State Authority issued no more than six (6) months prior the application date
  - 6.2.4 Seaman Book
  - 6.2.5 Basic Safety Training Certificates
  - 6.2.6 Any qualifications and courses of the Individual proving Armed Guard Training Records
  - 6.2.7 Confirmation of fees.



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6.3 Additionally, the Government of the Republic of Palau may request the below documents during the review and issuance of the authorization letter:

6.3.1 Documentary Evidence of Military and Law Enforcement Checks when applicable;

6.3.2 Records of medical, physical, and mental fitness of personnel (including drug and alcohol testing).

6.4 Palau International Ship Registry after reviewing the information and finding it in compliance with the IMO Guidelines and the Palau Flag Requirements, will issue a Letter of Authorization for the individual to carry arms onboard a specifically stated Palau registered vessel. The same individual can apply for authorization for another vessel.

## 7. Letter of Consent for the vessel

7.1 Once the Company providing the security personnel has been approved, and the authorization for armed personnel is in process, the vessel shall to apply to obtain [Letter of Consent for the Placement of PMSC on board Palau Vessels \(Application A034\)](#).

7.2 The letter of consent will state the PMSC providing the security personnel, the list of PCASP authorized to be placed on board, the list of weapons to be placed on board including quantity, serial number and ammunition, and the details of the voyage.

7.3 The Palau Ship Registry Administrator will issue the Letter of Consent, process that will take up to 24hrs upon the receipt of the Application A034 and the confirmation of the fees.

## 8. Contact

8.1 Any inquiries concerning the subject for this Marine Circular should be directed to the Palau Ship Registry Administrator at [technical@palaureg.com](mailto:technical@palaureg.com)

**\*\*This Marine Circular supersedes  
Marine Circular 186.1\*\***

Click [here](#) or use the below QR Code for the list of the last updated Marine Circular

