

CALIFORNIA

LOCKSMITH LAW

- Gives administration and enforcement of the law to the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs the Bureau of Security and Investigative Services at: www.dca.ca.gov/bsis/locksmith.
- Licensed required of locksmith which is defined as “any person who, for any consideration whatsoever, engages, directly or indirectly and as a primary or secondary object, in the business of rekeying, installing, repairing, opening, modifying locks, or who originates keys for locks. A locksmith does not mean any person whose activities are limited to making a duplicate key from an existing key.” Lock means any mechanical, electromechanical, electronic, or electromagnetic device, or similar device, including any peripheral hardware, that is designed to control access from one area to another, or that is designed to control the use of a device.
- Does not apply to manufacturers, single-employer industrial or institutional locksmiths, retailers limited to on-site rekeying and recombination of non-automotive locks (locksmith tools only allowed are key duplication machines, key blanks, pin kits), law enforcement officers, firefighters or emergency medical personnel, tow truck operators who do not originate keys for locks and whose locksmith services are limited to motor vehicles, or repossession agencies.
- Requirements are set by the director. Call bureau for updated criteria.
- License must be conspicuously displayed at place of business and in all advertisements.
- Must carry the state issued identification card at all times.
- Licensee shall apply for a branch office registration for each additional location (telephone answering service does not serve as a branch office).
- Locksmiths must record every call with customer’s name, address, work to be done, etc.
- There is opportunity for a hearing for improper revocation of a license.

THIS IS A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE LAW AND DOES NOT INTEND TO REPRESENT THE ENTIRE SET OF QUALIFICATIONS OR REQUIREMENTS. FOR FULL TEXT OF THE LAW GO TO:

http://www.dca.ca.gov/bsis/locksmith_law.htm

FOR APPLICATION FOR LOCKSMITH EMPLOYEE REGISTRATON GO TO:

<http://www.dca.ca.gov/bsis/forms/lock.pdf>