

## **TEXAS PRIVATE SECURITY LAW**

- The Texas Department of Public Safety administers the Private Security Act thru the Private Security Board ([www.txdps.state.tx.us](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us)).
- The statute requires that to own, manage or be employed by a licensed company a person must:
  - be at least 18 years of age;
  - not have been arrested, charged indicted, entered into any pre-trial intervention, or convicted of any Class A misdemeanor or felony unless a full pardon has been granted;
  - not have been arrested, charged, indicted, entered into any pre-trial intervention, or convicted of any Class B misdemeanor within the last five (5) years;
  - be mentally competent;
  - not be alcohol or drug dependent; and
  - if in the Armed Services, must have been Honorably Discharged
- A person acts as an electronic access control device company if the person installs or maintains an electronic access control device which are defined as an electronic, electrical, or computer-based device that allows access to a controlled area of a business, but that is not monitored and does not send a signal to which law enforcement or emergency services respond. The term does not include a mechanical device, such as a deadbolt or lock.
- A person acts as a locksmith company if the person sells, services, installs, or maintains mechanical security devices, including deadbolts and locks, and advertises services offered by the company using the term locksmith or includes the term locksmith in the company's name.
- An individual acts as a locksmith if the person sells, services, installs, or maintains mechanical security devices, including deadbolts and locks, and advertises or offers services to the public or represents to the public that the person is a locksmith
- Unless the person is registered as a locksmith company, a person may not act as a locksmith company; offer to perform the services of a locksmith company; or engage in business activity for which registration is required under this chapter.
- An individual acts as an electronic access control device installer for purposes of this chapter if the individual installs, maintains, or repairs an electronic access control device. A person registered as an electronic access control device installer may not install alarm systems unless the person is registered under this chapter as an alarm systems installer.
- A locksmith company or locksmith may not perform services for a customer who seeks entry to a structure, motor vehicle, or other property unless the customer, in the course of the transaction shows the locksmith company or locksmith a government-issued identification, and provides a signed authorization stating that the customer owns or is otherwise entitled to legal access to the structure, motor vehicle, or other property. A locksmith company or locksmith is exempt from these requirements if the locksmith is requested to perform services in a case of imminent threat to a person or property.

**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 LAW GO TO:**

**INSERT WEBSITE**