

Palau International Ship Registry



Europe Head Office
Piraeus, 18536, Greece
5, Sachtouri Street
6th floor
T: +30 210 4293500
F: +30 210 4293505
info@palaureg.com

USA Head Office
The Woodlands, TX, 77380
9595 Six Pines Drive,
Suite 8210, Office 277
T: +1 832 631 6061
F: +1 832 631 6001
www.palaureg.com

MARINE CIRCULAR 186.1

To: ALL SHIPOWNERS, MANAGERS, MASTERS, AND 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 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.



Palau International Ship Registry



Europe Head Office
Piraeus, 18536, Greece
5, Sachtouri Street
6th floor
T: +30 210 4293500
F: +30 210 4293505
info@palaureg.com

USA Head Office
The Woodlands, TX, 77380
9595 Six Pines Drive,
Suite 8210, Office 277
T: +1 832 631 6061
F: +1 832 631 6001
www.palaureg.com

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 Company should submit, together with the Application (A032), the following information:
 - 5.2.1 Certificate of incorporation or registration as a body corporate or partnership;
 - 5.2.2 Copy of valid Quality Assurance Certificate ISO 28007:2015
 - 5.2.3 Standard Operating Procedures / Rules for the Use of Force
 - 5.2.4 Insurance Policy designated to cover the Liabilities of the International Security Company
 - 5.2.5 Template of the Contract for the employment of security personnel on board vessels
 - 5.2.6 Code of Conduct
 - 5.2.7 Additional Certification from other Flag States if available.
 - 5.2.8 Procedures confirming that firearms are procured, transported, embarked and disembarked legally;
 - 5.2.9 Procedures for ensuring that Criminal Background Checks to the hired personnel providing the security onboard the vessels;
- 5.3 The above information will be reviewed and upon completion of the review an Approval Letter to the Company will be issued valid for three years. If additional information is needed during the review the same will be requested accordingly.
- 5.4 Every PMSC, approved by this Administration, must have the certainty that the security personnel hired, is not included in the list of terrorist of the United Nations Security Council.
- 5.5 Palau International Ship Registry may request an audit to the company to be carried out in the PMSC Head Office. Such audit will be done to verify the information submitted.
- 5.6 Authorized Private Maritime Security Companies (PMSC)
 - 5.6.1 Alphard Maritime PTE. LTD
 - 5.6.2 Specialized Vessel Services
 - 5.6.3 Rokada Security Service
 - 5.6.4 Seagull Maritime Security Ltd
 - 5.6.5 Sinoguards Marine Security Limited



Palau International Ship Registry



Europe Head Office Piraeus, 18536, Greece 5, Sachtouri Street 6 th floor T: +30 210 4293500 F: +30 210 4293505 info@palaureg.com	USA Head Office The Woodlands, TX, 77380 9595 Six Pines Drive, Suite 8210, Office 277 T: +1 832 631 6061 F: +1 832 631 6001 www.palaureg.com
--	--

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 (A033) needs to be provided for each person to be placed onboard.

6.2 Together with the Application A033, the following needs to be submitted:

6.2.1 Copy of Valid Passport

6.2.2 Updated CV

6.2.3 Qualifications, Courses and Training Records of the Individual

6.2.4 Confirmation of fees.

6.3 Following the above documents, 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 Criminal Background Checks

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

6.3.3 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 Requirement will issue a Letter of Authorization for the individual to carry arms onboard Palau registered vessels.

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 needs 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 include 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.



Palau International Ship Registry



Europe Head Office
Piraeus, 18536, Greece
5, Sachtouri Street
6th floor
T: +30 210 4293500
F: +30 210 4293505
info@palaureg.com

USA Head Office
The Woodlands, TX, 77380
9595 Six Pines Drive,
Suite 8210, Office 277
T: +1 832 631 6061
F: +1 832 631 6001
www.palaureg.com

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

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

