



December 22, 2020

Re: Additional Temporary Extension for the “Use of Restraints” endorsement/condition.

Dear Security Worker Licensee,

The Registrar of Security Services is responsible under the *Security Services Act* for regulating security workers in British Columbia. In March of 2020, training providers offering Advanced Security Training (AST) paused scheduled training as a response to COVID-19. This pause impacted individuals requiring re-certification of their AST to continue holding the endorsement – “authorized to carry and use restraints (handcuffs only)”. While AST training has since resumed and the Justice Institute of British Columbia (JIBC) now offers the AST exam online, the availability of AST training is reduced and still subject to limited capacity and temporary pauses in response to public health orders.

Under section 11(2) of the *Security Services Regulation*, the Registrar may authorize, on any conditions the registrar considers appropriate, a security worker licensee to carry and use the equipment referred to in subsection (1)(a), namely a restraining device.

The Registrar has decided to apply an extension to holders of the “authorized to carry and use restraints (handcuffs only)” endorsement. Any security worker whose handcuff endorsement has or will expire between March 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 will be extended an additional three months beyond the nine-month extension announced in March 2020. All security workers whose handcuff endorsement will expire between January 1, 2021 and March 31, 2021 will be extended twelve months. The purpose of this extension is to allow time to access training during this period of reduced availability. No handcuff endorsement will be extended longer than a total period of twelve months.

This means that this extension applies to you if you fulfill all of the following requirements:

- You have and maintain a valid security worker licence; and,
- Your AST has or will expire during the period of March 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021; and,
- You have an endorsement on the back of your current security worker licence that states “authorized to carry and use restraints (handcuffs only)”.

This extension does not allow untrained individuals, or anyone who’s endorsement expired before March 1, 2020, to use restraints.

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If this extension applies to your licence as detailed above, your AST restraints extension will be valid for twelve months to the day past the current AST expiry date, unless otherwise noted in the conversion chart below (*for instance, if your current AST expired July 12, 2020 it will now expire July 12, 2021*):

JIBC issued AST expiry date/Approved equivalent training expiry date												
Mar 2020	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Jul 2020	Aug 2020	Sep 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2020	Dec 2020	Jan 2021	Feb 2021	Mar 2021
Registrar Approved Extension Valid to:												
Apr 1, 2021	Apr 2021	May 2021	Jun 2021	Jul 2021	Aug 2021	Sep 2021	Oct 2021	Nov 2021	Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022

Please continue to monitor your AST training provider with a view to re-certifying as soon as a course is available. It is our expectation that you will register and re-certify as quickly as possible. Please do not wait for this extension to end before you re-certify as there are no further extensions planned.

If you are a security worker that meets the requirements for this extension then, while you are conducting security work, you must carry on your person the following:

- **Your most recent AST certification (that expired between March 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021);**
- **A copy of this extension letter; and,**
- **Your valid security workers licence.**

It is important to understand that this is not an extension of your security worker licence. Under the *Security Services Act*, all security workers are required to possess a valid security worker licence. The Security Programs Division is still processing security worker applications as usual. Due to the pandemic, we are asking that all security workers apply via our online process (rather than paper applications), and for renewal please apply between 60 and 90 days prior to the expiry of your licence.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your understanding and patience during this period. Should you have any questions please contact Security Programs Division at securitylicensing@gov.bc.ca.

Sincerely,



Cassandra Graber
 Deputy Registrar, *Security Services Act*
 Security Programs Division, Policing & Security Branch |
 Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General