



## **Proposal to Regulate the Sale, Possession and Use of Body Armour in British Columbia**

### **Questionnaire for Security Industry Businesses**

To help us understand the sale, possession and use of body armour in B.C., we would like to learn more about the use of body armour by the security industry.

#### **To complete and submit the questionnaire you may:**

1. E-mail
  - a. You may fill in the questionnaire at your computer and click the 'Submit Questionnaire' button at the end of the questionnaire. This method works best if you are using e-mail program that is actually installed on your computer (such as Microsoft Outlook), or
  - b. If you are using a web-based e-mail program (such as MSN Hotmail or Google Gmail), save the completed questionnaire and 'manually' attach the questionnaire to an e-mail message addressed to [betty.down@gov.bc.ca](mailto:betty.down@gov.bc.ca)
2. Mail or Fax
  - a. Fill in the questionnaire at your computer (option available in any version of Adobe Acrobat Reader) and print the completed questionnaire. Mail or fax the completed questionnaire to the address below, or
  - b. Print the questionnaire and fill in by hand (please print clearly, use dark ink). Mail or fax the completed questionnaire to the address below.

**This questionnaire should take approximately 15 minutes to complete.**

**DEADLINE – Friday August 14, 2009 at 4:00 p.m.**

#### **Mailing Address:**

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General  
Policing and Community Safety Branch  
PO Box 9285 Stn. Prov. Govt.  
Victoria BC V8W 9J7

**FAX: 250 356-7747**

**E-mail: [betty.down@gov.bc.ca](mailto:betty.down@gov.bc.ca)**

If you have any questions or need help with this questionnaire, please contact:

Betty Down, Senior Policy and Legislation Analyst

Phone: 250 387-0269

Toll Free: call Enquiry BC, Vancouver – 604 660-2421 / Elsewhere in BC – 1 800 663-7867

. . . and ask to be transferred to 250 387-0269

## Section 1 – General Information

On February 13, 2009, the Premier announced a 7 point plan to combat gang and gun violence. One proposed component of the plan is a new licensing program for the sale and purchase of body armour, which will include criminal record checks. Most importantly, it will provide for the possible confiscation of body armour from those that do not hold a valid licence.

You are invited to provide feedback on the proposal to regulate the sale, possession and use of body armour in B.C. Licensing would be restricted to the sale and possession of equipment commonly known as “bullet resistant vests”.

The issue of protecting citizens and police from the effects of gang violence is a high priority of our Government. The unregulated use of body armour is a factor that leads to extreme violence which may involve the use of firearms. Government’s particular concern is that innocent bystanders and police may be grievously injured or even killed in violent firearms related incidents involving gang members who feel invincible because of the body armour they are wearing.

The proposed regulation of body armour is a complex issue as there are some people who, because of their profession find themselves under threats of violence and have a legitimate need to wear body armour. This, of course, includes police and other enforcement agencies that are required to wear body armour to execute their duties but also include other people who legitimately require body armour for protection or for personal employment i.e. armoured car guard services, security guards, security consultants, and private investigators.

## Section 2 – Security Business Operational Questions

1. Check which type security service(s) you provide:

- Armoured Car Guard
- Security Consultant
- Private Investigator
- Security Guard

If you indicated security guard, please indicate the following:

- Patrol or watch of Property
- Personal Security (Bodyguard)
- Prevent the loss of property
- Door security (licensed liquor establishment)

2. Do you or your employees currently wear body armour to perform work related duties?

Yes  No

**If you answered NO to question 2, [please go to question 6.](#)**

3. a. Who purchases the body armour worn for work related duties?

- Business                       Employee

b. Is the body armour purchased from:

- Internet               Local Distributor               Other (please explain below):

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c. If the business purchases the body armour, does the business record or track any of the following information when assigning body armour (check all that apply):

- Name of Employee  
 Date of Assignment  
 Serial Number of Body Armour  
 Date of employee surrendering the body armour  
 Other (please explain below):

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d. If the business purchases the body armour, do employees surrender the equipment to the business upon leaving their employment?

- Yes                          No

### Section 3 – Type of Body Armour

4. A broadly accepted standard for rating the level of protection provided by a piece of body armour is the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), Ballistic Resistance of Body Armour. If you know the NIJ standard of the body armour you or your employees wear when conducting your work, please identify the NIJ level below:

- Level IIA       Level II       Level IIIA       Level III       Level IV       Other

5. How do you dispose of body armour that you no longer require?

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6. If you or your employees do not currently wear body armour when conducting your work, do you feel there may be a need for you or your employees to wear body armour in the future to perform your work related duties and why?

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## Comments

7. Do you have any additional comments you would like to add?

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If you have any additional information you would like to share with us (i.e., company procedures regarding body armour), please send the information along with this questionnaire. Thank you very much for your feedback.

## Optional Information:

May we contact you?

Yes  No

If Yes, please provide:

Your Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

The Ministry will use the information you provide in accordance with the  
*Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*