

Shipping & Transport - Cyprus

Interim measures for approval of private ship security contractors

Contributed by **Andreas Neocleous & Co LLC**

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The Protection of Cyprus Ships against Acts of Piracy and Other Unlawful Acts Law 2012 requires operators of Cyprus ships intending to employ private security contractors to obtain the prior approval of the Department of Merchant Shipping. Companies intending to operate as private security contractors aboard Cyprus ships also require approval from the department.

Under Section 33(8) of the law, the department must publish a list of private ship security companies that have been certified as complying with the requirements of the law. This list is published on the department's website and regularly updated. As at October 4 2013, 43 companies had received approval.

The department has also published details of the fees to be charged under the law. The principal fees are as follows.

| Section | Description | Fee |
|---------|---|---|
| 13(1) | Examination of an application for issue of a certificate in relation to use of a private ship security company's services submitted by the ship's operator or its Cyprus representative | €100 (if the application and all supporting documents are submitted more than five days before the proposed embarkation of the guards) or €200 (if otherwise) |
| 13(3) | Issue of a certificate to the ship's operator authorising use of a private ship security company's services, examination of an application for amendments to an existing certificate and issue of an amended certificate or duplicate certificate | €50 in each case |
| 22(1) | Initial examination of an application submitted by a private ship security company for issue of a certificate allowing the implementation of security measures on a Cyprus ship in respect of which a certificate has been issued under Section 13(3) | €4,000 for up to 80 guards in total, regardless of the number of firearms involved, plus €50 for each guard thereafter |
| 22(1) | Examination of an application submitted by a private ship security company for renewal of a certificate allowing the implementation of security measures on a Cyprus ship in respect of which a certificate has been issued under Section 13(3) | €2,000 for up to 80 guards in total, regardless of the number of firearms involved, plus €50 for each guard thereafter |
| 22(1) | Issue of a certificate valid for two years following a successful initial application or renewal application, and issue of a certificate (for the same period as the original) following amendments to the original certificate or of a duplicate certificate | €50 in each case |
| 22(1) | Examination of an application for the addition or deletion of private ship security guards on an existing certificate issued to a private ship security contractor in respect of a vessel for which a certificate has been issued under Section 13(3) | €200 (which covers the addition of up to four guards and the deletion of any number of guards, regardless of the number of firearms involved); for every additional guard above the first four, an extra €50 is payable |
| 22(1) | Examination of an application for the addition or deletion of firearms on an existing certificate issued to a private ship security contractor in respect of a vessel for which a certificate has been issued under Section 13(3) | €200, regardless of the number of firearms concerned |

For further information on this topic please contact Vassilis Psyrras at Andreas Neocleous & Co LLC by telephone (+357 25 110 000), fax (+357 25 110 001) or email (vassilis.psyrras@neocleous.com). The Andreas Neocleous website can be accessed at www.neocleous.com.

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Author

Vasileios Psyrras

