PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY

MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-243

PanCanal Building
Albrook, Panama City
Republic of Panama
Tel: (507) 501-5348
jortega@segumar.com

To:	**Ship-owners/Operators, Company Security Officers, Private Security Companies, Legal Representatives of Panamanian Flagged Vessels, Panamanian Merchant Marine Consulates and Recognized Organizations (ROs).**
Subject:	**Authorization for Private Maritime Security Companies (PMSC)**

Reference:	**MMC.228**	**MSC.1/Circ.1334**
	MSC.1/Circ.1405/Rev.2	**MSC.1./Circ. 1443**
	MSC.1/Circ.1406/Rev.2	**Resolution No.106-13-DGMM**
	MSC.1/Circ.1333	**Resolution No.106-85-DGMM**

1. The purpose of this Merchant Marine Circular is to officially communicate that on April 4th, 2012 was published in the Official Gazette, the Resolution No.106-13-DGMM, dated March 8th, 2012, whereby the Panama Maritime Authority establishes requirements for the Private Maritime Security Companies (PMSC) to meet, in order to become authorized by this Administration.

On December 24th, 2014 a new Resolution was published establishing new requirements in order to become an authorized Private Maritime Security Company, Resolution No.106-85-DGMM, dated December 17th, 2014.

2. This Administration encourages all Private Maritime Security Companies (PMSC) to comply with the requirements listed on Resolution No.106-13-DGMM and additional requirements listed on Resolution No.106-85-DGMM, to be able to offer their services of Privately Contracted Armed Security Personnel onboard Panamanian flagged vessels. Furthermore, please be advised that Res.No.106-13-DGMM is available in **English** and in **Spanish**. Also available Res.No.106-85-DGMM, in **Spanish** .

3. The Applications from the Private Maritime Security Companies (PMSC) must be submitted to the Directorate General of Merchant Marine through a Legal Representative in Panama.

4. The Panama Maritime Authority shall not issue authorizations for vessels contracting services from companies which are not duly authorized by this Administration as per MMC 245. Only companies listed in our circular MMC 245 are authorized to give Security Services. **It is strictly forbidden to celebrate Joint Venture Contracts between unauthorized companies to provide services on board Panamanian flagged vessels.**

December , 2014 New Resolution
August, 2014 – *Changes in paragraph 4*
May, 2013 – *Changes in Reference, Paragraph 1, 2 and 4.*
December, 2012 – *Change in point 4*
October, 2012 –*Change of date in point 4*
June, 2012 – *Change in reference*
April, 2012

Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular or any request should be directed to:
Maritime Ships Security Department
Directorate General of Merchant Marine
Panama Maritime Authority
Phone: (507) 501-4224 / 5037
Fax: (507) 501-5401
Email: *nardila@amp.gob.pa* / *taranda@amp.gob.pa*