

Merchant Marine Circular

Panama Maritime Authority
General Directorate of Merchant Marine
Control and Compliance Department

MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-338

- To:** Ship-owners / Operators, Company Security Officers, Legal Representatives of Panama Flagged Vessels, Panamanian Merchant Marine Consulates and Recognized Organizations (ROs).
- Subject:** Multiple Accreditations for Private Security Companies.
- Reference:** Resolution No.106-13-DGMM of March 8th, 2012
Resolution No. 106-85-DGMM of December 17th, 2014.
Resolution J.D. No. 053-2016 of September 21th, 2016.
MMC-228-Use of Armed Security Personnel on board Panama Flagged Vessel (**online application**).
MMC-245 Authorized Private Maritime Security Companies (PMSC) transiting High Risk Areas (**online application**).
MMC-243 Authorization for Private Maritime Security Companies (PMSC)
MMC-306 Subject: Security Personnel and Weapons listed by Private Maritime Security Companies (PMSC).

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1. The purpose of this Merchant Marine Circular is to officially communicate that on 4th October 2016, was published in the Official Gazette, the Resolution No. 106-74-DGMM dated 15th September, 2016 (for Spanish version only visit Maritime Security link, Panama Regulations) whereby the Panama Maritime Authority establishes a system of Multiple Accreditation for Private Security Companies wishing to be authorized as affiliates, subsidiaries or companies subject to administrative control that are part of economic groups to provide service voluntary use of armed or disarmed on board Panamanian flagged vessels, which exclusively transit high risk area of piracy attacks and armed robbery staff.

It will be understood as "MULTIPLE ACCREDITATION", the scheme approval of affiliates, subsidiaries, or companies under administrative control as part of economic groups, if applicants do state that are affiliates or subsidiaries of the same corporation or are affiliated with each other to be common, either directly or indirectly from a third party property, or be subject to its administrative control.



Merchant Marine Circular

2. 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.
3. Those applications will be evaluated by the Technical Evaluation Committee created by Resolution No. 106-14-DGMM of March 18, 2008 and approved, the General Directorate of Merchant Marine, will issued a certificate to verify the authorization granted in which the economic group that will include the main company with affiliates, subsidiaries, or under the administrative control approved by the Accreditation Multiple System is indicated.
4. The Companies authorized under Multiple Accreditation System may only provide the service for which they are duly approved.
5. Official Fees payable by PMSC (MMC-305)

Article 1 of Resolution JD No. 053-2016 (visit Maritime Security link, Panama Regulations) establishes the following fees:

- A.** Handling fee under Multiple Accreditation System for Private Security Companies that wish to be authorized..... **B / 1000.00**

This payment must be made by certified check in favor of the Panama Maritime Authority, nonrefundable presented at time of application.

- B.** Annuity rate under Multiple Accreditation System applicable to Approved Security Companies that wish to be authorized..... **B / 1000.00**

This payment shall be made no later than one (1) month after the date it is executed the resolution that gives its authorization, so that the authorization granted is not revoked with immediate suspension through a Statement of Objections.

Once approved these companies, the second and subsequent payments for the annuity rate, should be made the following year, by reference to the date on which became final resolution that gives its authorization, so that it will not be revoked with immediate suspension through statement of objections.



Merchant Marine Circular

Thereafter, the PMSC must pay their Annual fee not later than their anniversary date, which is determined by the date of their initial PMSC approval by the Panama Maritime Authority.

This date can be found on their Resolution Authorization. All payments can be made at the offices of the Panama Maritime Authority and the Merchant Marine Consulates in good time in order to avoid their withdrawal of the authorization granted, with immediate suspension through a Statement of Objections.

April, 2023 – CANCELLED. This circular is superseded by circular MMC-243.

December, 2020 – Change of PMA phone number

June 2019 - Refers in paragraph 1 and 5 to Maritime Security link, Panama Regulations.

October, 2016 - Inclusion of point 5.

October, 2016

Inquiries concerning the subject of this Merchant Marine Circular or any other request should be forward to:

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