



OC Spray and ASR Approvals

Private Security Employees – What you need to know

Background/Purpose

On 3 May 2024, the *Weapons Control Act 2001* (WCA) and the *Weapons Control Regulations 2001* (WCR) will be amended for prohibited weapon approvals to be issued to security, training and disposal providers and their employees to possess, carry and use Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Spray and Aerosol Subject Restraints (ASRs), subject to certain conditions.

Some facts for Private Security Employees

- The Northern Territory Police Force (NTPF) Firearms Policy and Recording Unit will be accepting applications for these approvals from 3 May 2024
- Private security employees can submit an application to carry, possess and use OC Spray and ASRs once their employer has a corporate approval
- Approvals for private security employees are linked to their employer. Employees will need a separate approval for each employer, if applicable (i.e. casual employees that work for multiple private security firms, private security employees that change employers)
- The private security employee must have a Crowd Controller Security Licence
- The approval will only authorise the private security employee to carry, possess and use OC Spray and ASRs while carrying out crowd controller duties at a licensed premises, or part of a licensed premises, where only takeaway alcohol is sold. The approval does not permit the carrying, possession or use of OC Spray and ASRs at a licensed premises, or part of a licensed premises, where alcohol is consumed on premises.
- All employees wishing to make an application must have a current advanced CPR first aid qualification as well as have attended an approved training and safety course
- Private security employees will be required to wear Body Worn Cameras (BWC) while carrying OC Spray or ASR and will be required to activate their BWC during any incident that may involve OC Spray or ASRs presentation or deployment
- Any use of force incidents involving OC Spray or ASR must be reported to police by calling either 000 or 131444. A use of force report must be completed and added to the employer's use of force register, and a copy retained by the Crowd Controller involved in the incident.
- There will be other conditions that a private security employee must comply with, such as carrying the approval card and wearing their uniform and crowd controller identification badge whenever

OC Spray and ASR Weapons Approvals

Fact Sheet for Private Security Employees

they are in possession of OC Spray and/or ASRs. Further details will be communicated in the coming weeks

- Application forms are available on the Northern Territory Police website, under Firearms and Weapons Information

What you can do to prepare

- Ensure you have a current crowd controller licence
- Ensure you have a current first aid certificate that covers the following units
 - HLTAID009 – provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation
 - HLTAID010 – provide basic emergency life support
 - HLTAID011 – provide first aid
 - HLTAID014 – provide advanced first aid
- Make enquiries with an approved training provider and book an approved training and safety course for employees:
 - The nationally accredited course “Defend Using Spray” (CPPSEC3126) has been approved for use as a training course for the *Weapons Control Act 2001*. The course can be delivered by Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) in the Northern Territory or interstate.
 - There is one other approved course in the Northern Territory delivered by Eagle Training Services
- Training courses must have been completed within 6 months prior to lodging an application for an OC Spray Approval
- Annual completion of an accredited training course is required prior to any application to renew an OC spray approval

Applicable conditions and requirements are subject to change. For all further enquiries, please contact the Firearms Policy and Recording Unit on (08) 8999 5511 (NTG Switchboard).