

## THE HONG KONG SECURITY ASSOCIATION STATEMENT ON ONGOING PROTEST ACTIONS AND DISRUPTIONS IN HKSAR

The HKSA has been monitoring the events unfold within Hong Kong SAR over the past few months, regarding the protest actions, escalations of violence and disruptions to public transport, facilities, events and the majority of the HK public and business sectors.

The HKSA recognizes that under the current Laws of the HKSAR, that the Citizens and Residents of Hong Kong have the right to express their views openly.

The HKSA respects the rights of persons to demonstrate, free speech and make their views known, however, we would advocate that this is done in a peaceful manner and with positive dialogue with all involved parties, including the HKSAR Government.

The HKSA condemns any form of intimidation, violence, abuse towards all security personnel that, are through no fault of their own, are performing their assigned daily work duties at facilities, such as; residences, office buildings, shopping malls, car parks, educational campuses and medical facilities.

The HKSA would like to cover the following topics:

- Intimidation of security personnel
- •Clarification of HK Police actions (Warrant Cards / Access to Facilities)
- •Inspection of FS Equipment

## Intimidation of Security Personnel

The HKSA would like to remind all-sectors of society that the security personnel are on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, supporting their families, whilst protecting the elderly, young, infirm, families, facilities and infra-structure all around HK during these difficult times.

The security officers place themselves, sometimes at personal risk, in harm's way to ensure that they report to their assigned workplaces, at their allocated time, so that they can conduct their primary duties of providing security, protection and safety.

The HKSA believes that these security officers and personnel should be commended for their resolute professionalism in maintaining their assigned duties, especially during this period of unrest in the HKSAR. The HKSA also believes that security personnel should not become, or be seen as, opportune targets, or scapegoats, by those that wish to express their views, political, social or otherwise, especially when they are performing their duties, in accordance to instructions from their respective employers.

The HKSA believes that the security industry remains a "neutral body". The industry's most important-assets, are its frontline personnel, employees and manpower. The security personnel (ladies and gentlemen) that are maintaining security services for all; Citizens, Residents, Visitors, Businesses and Organisations within the HKS



## Clarification of HK Police actions (Warrant Cards / Access to facilities)

The HKSA has been in contact with the HK Police Force, seeking clarification on the display of warrant cards by frontline HKP officers and the HKP access to facilities.

The HK Police CPB has supplied the HKSA and other organisations with the circulars that quote the following HKSAR Ordinances;

- •Sections 50(3), 50(4) and 63 of the Police Force Ordinance Cap 232
- •Section 36(b) of the Offences against the Person Ordinance Cap. 212

The HKSA highlights that "any persons obstructing Police Officers in their execution of duties are committing an offence and subject to imprisonment and/or fine upon conviction".

The HKSA advocate to member organisations and fellow associations disseminate the (attached) circulars from the HKPF clarifying these points, within their organisations and or networks.

## ■Inspection of FS Equipment

With the escalation of protest actions, the HKSA have observed a marked increase in actions resulting in damage to property by wanton, wilful, targeted damage, including actions resulting in serious fire damage.

Incidents have occurred where serious damage has been made to public transport stations, facilities and various retail establishments. The over-riding security concern here, is that a number of these incidents resulted in serious fires, with complete disregard for the fire, life safety of the residents, tenants and other establishments located nearby, or in most cases, above the area affected.

The HKSA urges all member organisations and fellow associations to implement measures within their organisations / companies to conduct immediate reviews and inspections of all fire-fighting / service equipment, such as Fire Hose Reels, Fire-Extinguishers, Fire Blankets and have any facility management technical teams inspect BMS platforms to ensure all smoke / heat detectors are active.

The HKSA also advises that security, facility and property management personnel are made aware of, and are correctly trained in the use of, and response to; Fires and available Fire-Fighting Equipment within their assigned working areas / contracts / facilities. This could make the difference in an incident involving fires (smoke) and a life saving situation.

The Security Industry in Hong Kong is a regulated industry and we are all bound to uphold the Laws of the HKSAR.

The Chairman and The Executive Committee 17 October, 2019