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## Police Department

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### CHANGES IN SECURITY FOR PUBLIC DANCES AND LIVE ENTERTAINMENT EVENTS ANNOUNCED

If you own a business licensed for dancing or if you sell alcohol or allow the consumption of alcohol and offer live entertainment, significant changes to your security requirements will take effect on November 24, 2011. Here is a quick look at the changes adopted by Oxnard City Council in Ordinance No. 2850:

#### Ratio of Security Guards to Patrons

**NEW:** “One security person shall be present when 50 to 100 patrons are present, and one additional security person shall be present for each additional increment of one to fifty patrons, unless the dance permit is conditioned otherwise.” There is no maximum number of security guards required for any event.

| Patrons Present    | 0-49 | 50-100 | 101-150 | 151-200 | 201-250 | 251-300 | 301-350 | Additional 1-50 |
|--------------------|------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------|
| Security Personnel | 0    | 1      | 2       | 3       | 4       | 5       | 6       | +1              |

**OLD:** One security guard was required when 25 to 50 patrons were present and one additional guard was required for each additional increment of one to 50 patrons up to a maximum of eight security guards.

| Patrons Present | 0-24 | 25-50 | 51-100 | 101-150 | 151-200 | 201-250 | 251-300 | 301-350 | 351+ |
|-----------------|------|-------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|------|
| Security Guards | 0    | 1     | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5       | 6       | 7       | 8    |

#### Security Guard Uniforms

**NEW:** No badge or uniform is required but a security guard must be “uniquely attired so as to be easily identifiable to attendees of the public dance and to police officers and so as to differentiate himself or herself from attendees of the public dance” or any other person.

**OLD:** A security guard was required to wear a uniform with a badge.



#### Contract Security vs. In-House Security

Security guards must still be licensed by the State of California as a “security guard” or “proprietary private security officer,” but because there is no longer a uniform or badge requirement, you may find it easier, more effective, and less expensive to hire security personnel directly rather than contracting with a private patrol operator (PPO). Before making the decision to employ security in-house, you should consult with your legal counsel and insurance company.

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