

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **DCJS to issue photo ID cards to Virginia Private Investigators**

RICHMOND, VA - The Professional Investigators and Security Association (PISA) successfully persuaded the Commonwealth of Virginia's Legislature to require the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) to issue photo identification (ID) cards to 41,000 Private Security Services Registrants in the State of Virginia.

In 2013, the DCJS stopped issuing photo identification (ID) cards to Private Security Services Registrants. In lieu of the photo identification cards, DCJS issued a plastic card with a white blank space where the photo used to be included.

"This is a public safety issue," said Senator Adam Ebbin. "The public is safer when a private investigators can provide them the assurance that they in fact are who they say they are. DCJS was not required by law or code to issue a photo ID card, so I was happy to introduce legislation to fix this problem."

Nicole Bocra, President of PISA members reached out to Senator Ebbin (D-Alexandria) and Delegate Fowler (R-Hanover) requesting legislation that requires DCJS to issue photo ID cards for all Private Security Services Registrants. The bi-partisan bill (HB 147/SB 424) successfully passed the General Assembly and was signed into law.

Starting July 1, 2017, DCJS shall design and approve the issuance of photo-ID cards to every person who is issued a private security services registration by DCJS. The photo-ID card shall contain the name, registration number, registration category, and photograph of the recipient; the date of issuance; the date of expiration; and the statement: "Department of Criminal Justice Services, Commonwealth of Virginia." The Department may enter into an agreement with the Department of Motor Vehicles to produce the photo-identification cards.



*On Monday, June 13, 2016, several PISA board members and invited guests accompanied Senator Ebbin (D-Alexandria) and Delegate Fowler (R-Hanover) to the Virginia State Capitol to attend the signing of the Photo ID bill into law by Governor Terry McAuliffe.*

In three years, PISA has successfully worked with the Virginia Assembly to have three bills introduced, passed and signed into law that have a direct impact on our industry!

Additional information on PISA is available at [www.vapisa.com](http://www.vapisa.com).

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