

SBCR 11/1476/94 Pt.31

Tel: 2810 2433
Fax: 2810 7702

30 November 2002

(Attn: Mrs Sharon TONG)
Clerk to LegCo Panel on Security
Legislative Council
3/F Citibank Tower
3 Garden Road
Central

By Fax: 2877 8024
Total Page(s): 2

Dear Mrs Tong,

**Panel on Security
Meeting on 7 November 2002**

Request for Statistics on Security Personnel

During the discussion of the LegCo Panel on Security on 7 November 2002 on the "Proposed amendments to the criteria for issuing Security Personnel Permits (SPP)", the Hon James TO asked for recidivism rate of SPP holders who obtained an SPP two years or more and three years or more after their release from imprisonment.

As the information of date of release from imprisonment of convicted persons has not been fully captured by the Police's database, the requested statistics are not available.

Your attention is drawn to the point that the recidivism rate of persons released from imprisonment is not the main reason for our proposal to change the two years of release from a term of imprisonment to three years. The proposal to extend the period of release from imprisonment from two to three years seeks to provide ex-convicts a longer period of time to adapt to the outside environment after serving an imprisonment sentence and to enable them to avail themselves of opportunity to prove their repentance.

We must emphasize that the proposed amendments to the "Good Character" criterion should be considered as a whole package, which not only take account of the SPP applicant's period of release from imprisonment, but also other factors including the nature and seriousness of offences for which the person has been convicted, the

number of past convictions, the types of sentences imposed by the court, etc. The purpose is to further ensure that only fit and proper person can hold an SPP to provide security services, thereby helping to promote standard, reduce criminality in the security industry and enhance public confidence in private security services.

Yours sincerely,

(Miss Angela LEE)
for Secretary for Security