#### LIGUE INTERNATIONALE DES SOCIETES DE SURVEILLANCE

# code of conduct and ethics









#### **INTRODUCTION**

With this Code of Conduct and Ethics, (hereafter "the Code"), the Ligue Internationale des Sociétés de Surveillance (hereafter "the Ligue") presents a unified approach and framework of conduct and ethics. The purpose of the Code is to affirm the Ligue's commitment to human rights and to setting a standard about the way the Ligue members conduct business and interact with stakeholders, in order to have a positive influence in the society and the communities in which they operate.

# The Ligue recommends the Code of Conduct and Ethics to all its members as a set of core standards.

As to each Ligue member signatory to this Code, the provisions of this Code are subject to all applicable laws and to the individual Ligue member's corporate policies and procedures.

The Code builds upon principles set forth in established standards issued by the United Nations (UN), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and other codes related to private civilian security



companies and their services and products, as well as on the Ligue "Objective Vision" Declaration of 1st July 2011.

The members of the Ligue maintain an extended collaboration with a broad range of stakeholders involved in and influenced by their operations. The primary stakeholders for the Code are the Ligue's member companies' personnel, customers, suppliers and other business partners, authorities on all levels, society and the communities in which they operate. The Code also covers the business relationship between members of the Ligue and their competitors.

## **CHAPTER 1:** Human Rights

- 1.1. The Lique member acknowledges that security is a fundamental need, shared by individuals, communities, businesses, and governments alike. While acknowledging that difficult security issues are faced by private security companies, the Ligue member recognizes that security and respect for Human Rights can and should be consistent.
- 1.2. The Ligue member shall support and respect, when conducting business,

the dignity of all human beings and will endeavour to observe all applicable international humanitarian and human rights laws.

1.3. The Ligue member providing civilian private security services in areas of armed conflict shall respect the standards of international humanitarian and human rights laws applicable in each area.

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#### CHAPTER 2: Laws and Regulations Governing Private Security

- 2.1. The Ligue member shall carry out its private security operations in compliance with applicable laws and regulations governing the private security industry.
- 2.2. Where little or no regulation exists, the Ligue member will strive, in cooperation with the concerned authorities to develop and

implement a set of minimum regulations in order to enhance the professionalism and the quality of the services provided and alert relevant authorities to criminal organisations entering or being active in the market.

2.3. The Ligue member shall comply with existing laws and regulations, and shall establish its own procedures regarding screening, vetting and licensing of its personnel according to those laws and regulations. In the absence of regulatory

requirements, the Ligue member will, to the extent lawful and reasonably practicable, establish reasonable procedures designed to prevent personnel with a criminal background demonstrating unsuitability to work in the security industry from being hired or deployed. Ligue member personnel will be trained in accordance with applicable legislation and/or licensing standards.

- 2.4. Operations will be carried out in line with compulsory obligations regarding uniforms, communication tools, use of dogs, use of weapons or any other operational working method. In the absence of regulatory requirements, the Ligue member shall adopt internal rules for the proper conduct of such activities.
- 2.5. The Ligue member shall only provide services to customers which can be legally provided and are conducted within the limits of legally allowed operational methods. The Ligue member will also subscribe to compulsory insurances in accordance with applicable regulation and will endeavour to obtain reasonable coverage for third party liability. The Ligue member shall endeavour to educate potential customers about the importance of the compliance framework for security companies in their markets.

2.6. Within the communities in which it operates and within society as a whole, the Ligue member will promote the rationale of regulations for the security industry and raise awareness regarding the positive impact of regulatory frameworks. The Ligue Member will also endeavour to convince communities to engage and cooperate only with legally and regulatory compliant private security companies.





### **CHAPTER 3: Business Ethics**

- 3.1. The Ligue member commits to proper business conduct in how it treats its personnel, customers and business partners and how it interacts with its competitors. The Ligue Member shall demonstrate respect for laws and regulations.
- 3.2. The Ligue member shall refrain from unlawful discrimination based on any applicable protected personal characteristics.
- 3.3. The Ligue member shall prohibit its personnel from taking or offering bribes and will require that its personnel avoid any conflict of interest that might affect business decisions.
- 3.4. The Ligue member will allow its personnel, without fear of reprisal, to raise serious concerns about illegal business practices or those which otherwise violate the Code.
- 3.5. The Ligue member shall treat customers' confidential and proprietary information and intellectual property in a confidential manner and shall protect it from inappropriate disclosure and misuse.



- 3.6. The Ligue member shall ensure that its customers will receive relevant contract information in a transparent, accurate and timely manner.
- 3.7. The Ligue member shall ensure that customers' complaints will be treated and followed-up in an appropriate manner.
- 3.8. The Ligue member shall treat its suppliers and other business partners in accordance with principles of good faith and fair dealing.

- 3.9. The Ligue member shall encourage its suppliers and other business partners to comply with and promote standards of human rights and business ethics.
- 3.10. The Ligue member shall treat other Ligue members fairly whilst competing vigorously.
- 3.11. Any non-Ligue member competitor whose behaviour is illegal or unfair or not in accordance with the Code and impacts negatively on the functioning or the

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reputation of the industry shall be subject to challenge by Lique members.

3.12. The Ligue member shall make efforts to provide a positive influence in the communities in which it operates.

### CHAPTER 4: Working Conditions

- 4.1. With regard to working conditions and occupational health and safety, the Ligue member shall comply with statutory requirements and strive to ensure that the workplace and its operations do not endanger the health and safety of any personnel.
- 4.2. The Ligue member shall act in accordance with principles of equality of treatment, showing respect, dignity and empathy towards personnel. The Ligue member shall

prohibit any kind of unlawful discrimination based on applicable protected personal characteristics.

- 4.3. All screening and selection processes shall be conducted by the Ligue member properly and in compliance with applicable regulations.
- 4.4. The Ligue member shall conduct employment commencement and termination according to applicable regulations.
- 4.5. Upon commencement of employment, the Ligue member shall give new personnel all necessary instructions and training in order to carry out their duties effectively and efficiently.
- 4.6. The Ligue member shall ensure that it pays wages corresponding at least to the minimum wage prescribed by law. Wages shall be paid at an agreed time and in a form that is practical for both the personnel and the employer and complies with applicable law. Personnel shall be informed regularly and in a detailed, comprehensible manner of the composition of their remuneration.
- 4.7. If the working conditions change in the course of employment, the Ligue member shall notify personnel in due time and

advise them of any need for additional qualifications, in accordance with the applicable legislation regarding union rights and collective bargaining.

4.8. Pursuant to the applicable laws of the nation under which a Ligue member operates, the Ligue member shall respect the right of personnel to form, to join or to be active in legal associations or organisations of their choice for the purposes of furthering and protecting their employment interests and for the purposes of collective bargaining.

- 4.9. The Ligue member shall establish procedures to deal with any grievances raised during the course of employment in a timely manner.
- 4.10. The Ligue member shall take an active approach to understanding the needs of and building relationships with its personnel and their representative organisations in each particular country.





### **CHAPTER 5:** Environment

- 5.1. The Ligue member commits to taking the environmental impact of its business into account. It shall actively strive to reduce the overall effect of its business activities on the environment and ensure that they will contribute to the benefit of its stakeholders without compromising the needs of future generations.
- 5.2. The Ligue member shall ensure that its business activities comply with applicable

laws and regulations regarding the protection of the environment.

- 5.3. The Ligue member shall obtain and maintain all required environmental permits and registrations and follow their operational and reporting requirements.
- 5.4. The Ligue member shall continuously seek ways to reduce the consumption of resources, emissions and waste.

### **CHAPTER 6: Compliance and implementation**

- 6.1. Each Ligue member which signs the Code agrees to implement the Code and to operate in compliance with the Code's principles and standards.
- 6.2. The Ligue member shall disseminate and promote the Code as widely as possible throughout its organisation through its internal and external communication channels.

6.3. The Code will be the subject of periodic evaluation by a working group, for examination, assessment and update, as determined by the Lique.

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