

DPS HOME SERVICES EMPLOYMENT ABOUT US

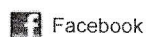
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DPS: Hire Only Licensed Locksmiths

Since January 2004, the Private Security Act has required that individuals and companies performing locksmith services in the state of Texas be licensed by the Department of Public Safety. As part of the licensing process, fingerprint criminal history checks are performed on applicants to ensure they do not have criminal convictions that would prohibit them from receiving a license.

However, many individuals and companies are still performing services without the required license—and the required criminal history check. Giving an unlicensed locksmith access to your home or business places you at risk of criminal acts against you or your property.

The Department recommends that before you allow a locksmith access to your home, business or other property, you ensure he or she is licensed. Licensed locksmiths will be able to provide you a Department-issued license number.

You should also check our website using the search feature at <http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/psb/> to verify an individual or company's licensed status.

The Department has 27 troopers located throughout the state who investigate violations of the Private Security Act. Among the violations they investigate are allegations of individuals or companies performing locksmith services without a license, which is a class A misdemeanor, punishable by a jail term up to 1 year and/or a fine of up to \$4,000.

If you encounter an unlicensed individual or company offering to perform locksmith services, please contact the Department's Private Security Bureau by mail (PO Box 4087, Austin, TX 78773-0241), by fax (512-424-7729) or by e-mail (psb@dps.texas.gov).

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