



Maryland State Police  
Licensing Division  
**ADVISORY**  
**LD-SPO-15-001**



**March 12, 2015**

**SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER COMMISSION – SCOPE OF COMMISSION  
OFF OF THE PREMISES**

The Maryland State Police Licensing Division Command has, on a number of occasions, been asked whether or not a special police officer is able to exercise his/her police powers to protect property and/or persons not located on the real property described in the commission application, but for which the entity that requested the commission has assumed an obligation to maintain or protect.

Maryland's Public Safety Article § 3-307(b)(3) provides that a special police officer may exercise the powers of a police officer in a county or municipal corporation of the State in connection with the care, custody, and protection of other property of the entity that requested the appointment of the special police officer or other property, real or personal, for which the entity has assumed an obligation to maintain or protect. The statute does not authorize a special police officer to exercise police powers to protect persons not on the property described in the application for the commission

Entities requesting the appointment of special police commissions are reminded that Maryland's Public Safety Article § 3-308 holds the police officer responsible for any abuse of power granted by the commission and the entity responsible for any wrongful action committed in the course of the officer's duties and any abuse of power either on or off the property described in the commission.