

New law authorizes the superintendent of state police to issue at his discretion a special officer's commission to any person employed by a rail carrier as a rail police officer in accordance with federal law (49 U.S.C. 28101), and provides for the commission to be valid for one year from the date of issuance.

New law authorizes the superintendent to determine eligibility, to revoke the commission for cause, to require rail officers holding the commission to furnish proof of being bonded, and to require submission of any other information necessary to determine suitability.

New law requires the rail officer to maintain P.O.S.T. certification status.

New law requires that the special officer's commission remain in effect at all times and have the same authority as a certified or commissioned police officer pursuant to the laws of the state for purposes of enforcement in any jurisdiction in which the rail carrier owns property and provides protection to any of the following:

- (1) Employees, passengers, or patrons of the rail carrier.
- (2) Property, equipment, and facilities owned, leased, operated, or maintained by the rail carrier.
- (3) Property moving in interstate or foreign commerce in the possession of the rail carrier.
- (4) Personnel, equipment, and material moving by rail that are vital to national defense.

New law authorizes DPS&C to promulgate and adopt regulations relative to the issuance of the special officer commission.

Effective Aug. 1, 2014.

(Adds R.S. 40:1379.1.2)