

The Saint Lucia Ports Police (SLPP)

The Saint Lucia Ports Police (SLPP) constituted under the Saint Lucia Air and Sea Ports Authority (SLASPA) Act Chapter 8.13 of the Revised Edition of the Laws of Saint Lucia, 2001, provides security for St. Lucia's Air and Sea Ports. The department is lead by the Chief of Ports Police and a Deputy Chief, who are both responsible for the administration of day to day operations. In addition, the Ports Police falls under the general command and superintendence of the island's Commissioner of Police. The Ports Police security force comprises personnel who receive initial police training and are continuously trained in a wide range of areas pertinent to its mission and objectives. Also, the Ports Police comprises a Marine Unit responsible for water – based security. In the discharge of its functions, Customer service remains the department's top priority.

Private Security Firms

A few private security firms are contracted to provide an essential service within the Airport environment. However, the SLPP remains the principal law enforcement entity within our Airport and Seaport environment.

Governing Legislations

The powers and responsibilities of the SLPP are enshrined in the SLASPA ACT Chapter 8.13 of the Revised Edition of the Laws of Saint Lucia, 2001 and the Police Act Cap. 14.01 of the Revised Laws of St. Lucia 2001, is another supportive section of legislation. Amidst its wide range of security responsibilities, the SLPP is in the frontline as relates to the enforcement of the provisions of the SLASPA Act, The Airports Regulations No. 42 of 1976 and The Sea Ports Regulations No. 92 of 1985 and the amendments thereto. The SLPP also assists with the enforcement of other state laws and work in partnership with other local law enforcement agencies. These other State Laws and Legislations include the Shipping Act, The Civil Aviation Act, The Fisheries Act, The Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, The Criminal Code of St. Lucia No.9 of 2004, Laws relating to Quarantine, Immigration and Customs. The SLPP, as the lead security entity, spearheads and oversees the implementation of new security measures and procedures for the Airports and Seaports. This includes provisions under the International Maritime Organization, ISPS Code and practices and procedures outlined in FAA and ICAO Manuals.

Seaport Procedures and Guidelines

Applicable to Port Vieux Fort and Castries Seaport

The port area of the seaports is a restricted area. Unauthorized access into the port area constitutes a breach of the Seaports Regulations. A person found in contravention may face a maximum fine of two thousand dollars (EC\$ 2000.00).

Swimming, bathing or unauthorized diving is strictly prohibited in our port waters.

Vehicles entering the seaports are searched prior to allowing entry at the authorized point of entry; a search is also conducted upon exit.

Persons on legitimate business seeking entry into the port area are required to subject themselves to a security screening and a search of their personal effects. Pedestrians and drivers who do not subscribe to a search will not be allowed entry.

Items Not Allowed through Access Gates

Items listed as dangerous items or articles that are not permitted through the seaport security check points or onboard vessels, including passenger ships, should not be carried on your person or in your hand bags. These include Firearms and ammunition, explosives, inflammable liquids, knives and other dangerous weapons.

If you are to travel on any vessel, contact your local tour operator or shipping agent, prior to packing or checking at the ports, for additional information on items you should not have in your possession.

Always look out for signage at the seaport which give guidance to users or prohibits certain activities. Note that the security level applicable to each port is featured by use of signage posted near the Sea Ports Main Entrance gates.

Identification Badges and Temporary Passes

Application for Port ID

All persons conducting regular, legitimate business within the port area, including Truckers and their authorized drivers are required to apply for a Seaport Security Identification Badge for access into the port area; all the procedures and guidelines applicable for the airport I.D. Badge and Temporary Pass shall apply to the seaports.

However, the following additional documents must be attached to the application of each regular trucker and driver:

A copy of Valid Driver's license showing the class of vehicle licensed to drive;

A copy of the vehicle's road worthiness certificate.

An ID badge may be issued to access both seaports to a person who conducts regular business at either port.

The issue of a seaport ID badge does not give the holder an automatic right of access to the port area at any given time.

Temporary Passes

These are issued to you at the port facility to be accessed.

The Employer or Agency concerned has to make a written representation on behalf of all temporary workers, contractors or visitors requiring access to the restricted area, following which Seaport Security will consider the issuance of a temporary worker or visitor pass. Information pertaining to the duration of contract or temporary employment must be supplied.

All Temporary workers, contractors or visitors are required to present and surrender a valid picture ID (e.g. *National ID Card, Drivers License*) and sign a Log for the relevant Temporary Pass to be issued. Temporary passes are issued at the Ports Police Office.

Surrendered Picture IDs are kept by the Ports Police to be collected in person by the respective owner after the Pass issued has been returned.

Ships Crew Members/Seafarers

A copy of crew list signed and stamped by the immigration authority shall be submitted to the Ports Police in order for shore leave to be granted to a crew member of any vessel in port.

Passengers and crew members are advised to carry a valid means of identification on them upon leaving the port area on shore leave. This will become necessary when returning to port.

Clearing of Goods

Ensure that all relevant documents (e.g. *Cargo Manifest and Bill of Sight*) necessary to complete the transaction are in your possession and ready to be shown at the access gate.

Goods entering or leaving the port are security verified by the Ports Police security at the Gate.

The Air and Sea Ports Security Department would like to thank you immensely for your patience and co-operation. We are in to serve and keep you and your business safe.