

Surveillance Devices Act 1998

Surveillance Devices Regulations 1999

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Western Australia

Surveillance Devices Regulations 1999

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Western Australia

Surveillance Devices Act 1998

Surveillance Devices Regulations 1999

1. Citation

These regulations may be cited as the *Surveillance Devices Regulations* 1999¹.

2. Commencement

These regulations come into operation on the day on which the *Surveillance Devices Act 1998* comes into operation¹.

3. Forms

- (1) A warrant issued under section 13, 14, 17, 19 or 22 of the Act is to be in the form of Form 1 in Schedule 1, or such other form as the judge or magistrate approves.
- (2) An application for emergency authorisation under section 21 of the Act is to be in the form of Form 2 in Schedule 1, or such other form as the Commissioner of Police approves.
- (3) An emergency authorisation issued under section 21 of the Act is to be in the form of Form 3 in Schedule 1, or such other form as the authorised person issuing the authorisation approves.
- (4) An application to a magistrate for a tracking device warrant or a tracking device (maintenance/retrieval) warrant is to be in the form of Form 4 in Schedule 1, or such other form as the Commissioner of Police approves.

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[Regulation 3 amended in Gazette 8 Feb 2000 p	. 458;
5 May 2006 p. 1735.]	

4. Law enforcement officers, classes prescribed

For the purposes of paragraph (d) of the definition of *law enforcement officer* in section 3(1) of the Act, each of the following classes of persons is prescribed —

- (a) conservation and land management officers (as defined in the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* section 3);
- (b) forest officers (as defined in the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* section 3);
- (c) rangers (as defined in the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* section 3);
- (d) wildlife officers (as defined in the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* section 3);
- (e) inspectors (as defined in the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* section 3(1)) who are officers or employees of a department, authority or agency of the State;
- (f) fisheries officers (as defined in the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* section 4(1)) who are employed in the Serious Offences Unit of the Department as defined in section 4(1) of that Act).

[Regulation 4 inserted in Gazette 6 Jul 2010 p. 3225.]

5. Commonwealth agencies, instrumentalities and bodies

The following Commonwealth agencies, instrumentalities and bodies are prescribed for the purposes of section 4(2) of the Act —

(a) Australian Security Intelligence Organization continued by section 6 of the *Australian Security Intelligence Organization Act 1979* of the Commonwealth; and

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- (b) Australian Federal Police established by section 6 of the Australian Federal Police Act 1979 of the Commonwealth; and
- [(c) deleted]
- (d) Australian Competition and Consumer Commission established by section 6A of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* of the Commonwealth; and
- (e) the department of the Commonwealth public service responsible for administering the *Migration Act 1958* of the Commonwealth; and
- (f) each of the armed forces of the Commonwealth.

[Regulation 5 amended in Gazette 1 Dec 2015 p. 4821.]

6. Use of tracking devices without warrant

- (1) For the purposes of section 7(2)(d) of the Act the following circumstances are prescribed, that is, where a tracking device is attached, installed, used or maintained, or caused to be attached, installed, used or maintained
 - (a) by an emergency service to locate the person who is, or object that is, the subject of a search operation;
 - (b) by the person in charge of a hospital or nursing home in relation to a vulnerable patient to enable the person in charge to locate the vulnerable patient if he or she gets lost or goes missing;
 - (c) by the superintendent of a prison in relation to a prisoner to enable the superintendent to locate the prisoner if he or she escapes from legal custody;
 - (d) by a researcher in relation to an object the geographical location of which is relevant to research being carried out by that person;
 - (da) by a public authority for the purposes of monitoring traffic on a highway or main road;
 - (e) for the purposes of any of the following —

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- (i) *Bail Act 1982* section 50L(1)(a);
- (iia) Dangerous Sexual Offenders Act 2006 section 19A(2);
- (ii) Sentence Administration Act 2003 section 30(c) or (e)(i), 57(2)(a) or 74G(c), (d) or (e);
- (iii) Sentencing Act 1995 section 33H(2)(b), 75(2)(b) or 84C(2)(b);
- (iv) Young Offenders Act 1994 section 109B(1)(a) or 136B(1)(a).

(2) For the purposes of section 7(2)(d) of the Act the following circumstance is prescribed — where a person uses, or causes to be used, a tracking device in relation to an object that —

- (a) was in the person's possession or under the person's control when the device was attached or installed; and
- (b) is no longer in the person's possession or under the person's control; and
- (c) the person reasonably believes to have been stolen.
- (3) As soon as practicable after a tracking device is attached, installed or used in relation to a vulnerable patient in circumstances described in subregulation (1)(b) the person in charge of the hospital or nursing home must give written notice of the attachment, installation or use to —
 - (a) if a guardian has been appointed for the patient under the *Guardianship and Administration Act 1990*, the guardian; or
 - (b) otherwise
 - (i) the patient's next of kin; or
 - (ii) if the patient's next of kin is not known, the Public Advocate under the *Guardianship and Administration Act 1990*.
- (4) In this regulation —

emergency service means —

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- (a) the police force of the State or of another State or a Territory; or
- (b) the department of the Public Service principally assisting in the administration of the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1998* or an equivalent department, authority or agency of another State or a Territory; or
- (c) a voluntary or community rescue organisation; or
- (d) the Australian Maritime Safety Authority established under the *Australian Maritime Safety Authority Act 1990* (Commonwealth) section 5;

hospital has the meaning given in the *Health Services Act 2016* section 8(4);

nursing home means a facility at which an approved provider (as defined in the *Aged Care Act 1997* of the Commonwealth) provides residential care (as defined in that Act);

prison has the same meaning as in the Prisons Act 1981;

public authority has the meaning given in the *Criminal Procedure Act 2004* section 3(1);

researcher means —

- (a) a member of the staff of, or a student at, a school, college, university or other educational or training institution; or
- (b) a member of the staff of, or person working for, a government agency, instrumentality or body;

superintendent has the same meaning as in the *Prisons Act 1981*;

vulnerable patient means a hospital patient or nursing home resident who, in the opinion of the person in charge of the hospital or nursing home —

(a) is likely, due to illness, lack of awareness or other incapacity, to leave the hospital or nursing home without having due regard to his or her health and safety; or

- (b) being under a legal obligation to remain in the hospital or nursing home, is likely to attempt to leave; or
- (c) is likely to be taken away from the hospital or nursing home without the consent of the patient or the person in charge.

[Regulation 6 amended in Gazette 21 Sep 2007 p. 4734; 4 Jan 2013 p. 10; 19 Feb 2013 p. 992; 24 Jun 2016 p. 2340; 16 Sep 2016 p. 3941; 23 Dec 2016 p. 5906; 18 Aug 2017 p. 4448.]

7. Storage and destruction of Part 5 records

- (1) The Commissioner of Police, the Corruption and Crime Commission, a designated Commission and the Australian Crime Commission must —
 - (a) keep every Part 5 record in a secure place in accordance with section 41(1)(a) of the Act as if it were a record obtained under a warrant; and
 - (b) destroy a Part 5 record when it would be required to do so under section 41(1)(b) of the Act if the Part 5 record were a record obtained under a warrant.
- (2) The Commissioner of Police, the Corruption and Crime Commission, a designated Commission and the Australian Crime Commission must keep such records concerning Part 5 records as are necessary to enable documents and information to be identified and obligations under this Act to be complied with.
- (3) In this regulation —

Part 5 record means a record or report delivered to the police force, the Corruption and Crime Commission, a designated Commission or the Australian Crime Commission in accordance with an order under section 31(3)(b) of the Act.

[*Regulation 7 amended by No. 74 of 2004 s. 73(2); amended in Gazette 5 May 2006 p. 1736; 21 Sep 2007 p. 4735.*]

8. Annual reports

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- (1) The information relating to applications for warrants and extensions of warrants required by section 43 of the Act to be contained in an annual report is to include the number of such applications that were
 - (a) withdrawn; and
 - (b) made by the applicant on behalf of another law enforcement officer; and
 - (c) made by means other than filing a written application at the court.
- (2) The information relating to applications for emergency authorisations required by section 43 of the Act to be contained in an annual report is to include the number of such applications that were withdrawn.

8A. Reports by designated Commission

The information relating to applications for warrants, extensions of warrants and emergency authorisations included in a report under section 43A of the Act may include information of the kind described in regulation 8.

[Regulation 8A inserted in Gazette 21 Sep 2007 p. 4735.]

9. Unlawful possession of surveillance information

(1) A person who is unlawfully in possession of surveillance information commits an offence.

Penalty: \$5 000.

- (2) It is lawful for a person to be in possession of surveillance information only if
 - (a) the person is a law enforcement officer and has possession of the surveillance information in the course of his or her duty; or
 - (b) the person is assisting a law enforcement officer in the exercise of the officer's duty and has possession of the

surveillance information	in	the co	urse	of prov	iding	that
assistance; or						

- (c) the surveillance information was obtained in accordance with Part 5 of the Act; or
- (d) the surveillance information was obtained by the person
 - (i) from a person who was lawfully in possession of that information; and
 - (ii) in circumstances where the publication or communication of the surveillance information to the person was not an offence under section 9 of the Act.
- (3) In this regulation —

surveillance information means a report or record of a private conversation or private activity of a person, or of the geographical location of a person or object, that was obtained, directly or indirectly, through the use of a surveillance device.

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Schedule 1 — Forms

No.	Form	Section of Act
1	Warrant	13, 14, 17, 19 and 22
2	Application for emergency authorisation	21
3	Emergency authorisation	21
4	 4 Application for — 15 and 19 tracking device warrant tracking device (maintenance/retrieval) warrant 	

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Surveillance Devices Act	t 1998,	s. 13,	14,	17,	19	and 2	22
Warrant							

Supreme Court judgeMagistrateAt.....

Strike out any parts of this form that are not applicable

Person to Name				
whom warrant	Member of police force			
is issued	Officer of the Corruption and Crime Commission			
	Officer of a designated Commission			
	Member of staff of Australian Crime Commission			
	Warrant issued on behalf of another law enforcement officer			
	(Name)			
Person, object	□ Person			
or premises	Unknown person			
under	□ Object			
surveillance	□ Premises			
Offence	Offence			
Act or Regulations				
	Section or regulation no.			
Authority to	This warrant authorises you —			
use	\Box to attach or install, use, maintain and retrieve a —			
surveillance	Iistening device			
device	optical surveillance device			
	tracking device			
	in relation to a tracking device attached to, or installed in, a			
	vehicle, to —			
	\square maintain the device			
	\Box retrieve the device			
	maintain and retrieve the device			
	\Box to retrieve a —			
	listening device			
	optical surveillance device			
	tracking device			
	attached or installed under an emergency authorisation			

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The surveillance device may be attached or installed, used or maintained — in, on or at the premises under surveillance in or on the object under surveillance in respect of the private conversations, private activities or geographical location of the person under surveillance, at premises where the person is reasonably believed to be or is likely to be
• Where practicable the surveillance device should be retrieved or rendered inoperable during the period that the warrant is in force

Authority to enter premises	This warrant authorises you to enter, by force if necessary —			
	any premises where the object or person under surveillance is reasonably believed to be or is likely to be and any premises adjoining or providing access to those premises	e		
	any premises where the vehicle on or in which the device i attached or installed may for the time being be	is		
	any premises where the surveillance device to be retrieved may for the time being be	ł		

Authority to	□ This warrant authorises you to connect the surveillance device
use electricity	to an electricity supply system and to use electricity from that system
supply	to operate the device

Authority to	This warrant authorises you to temporarily remove this vehicle		
remove vehicle	from this premises for the purpose of —		
	\Box attaching \Box installing		
	□ maintaining □ retrieving		
	a tracking device		
	Vehicle		
	Premises		
	You must return the vehicle to the premises when the device has		
	been attached, installed, maintained or retrieved		

Period of	to, beingda	ys
warrant	The warrant may be used at any time of the day or night	

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Conditions	This warrant is subject to these conditions

Issue of	Signature	
warrant		
	_	Judge / Magistrate
	Date	Time

[Form amended by No. 74 of 2004 s. 73(3); amended in Gazette 5 May 2006 p. 1736; 21 Sep 2007 p. 4735.]

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Surveillance Devices Act 1998, s. 21 Application for emergency authorisation

Strike out any parts of this form that are not applicable

Applicant	Name		
	Business address		
	Postcode		
	Phone no.		
	Member of police force		
	Officer of the Corruption and Crime Commission		
	Officer of a designated Commission		
	Member of staff of Australian Crime Commission		

Person, object or premises under	Person Unknown person Object
surveillance	Premises

Action for	Authorisation is required to —	
which	□ attach or install □ use □ maintain	
authorisation	a listening device to record, monitor, or listen to a private	
is required	conversation	
	□ an optical surveillance device to record visually or observe	
	a private activity	
	□ a tracking device to determine the geographical location of a	
	person or object	
	in relation to the —	
	premises under surveillance	
	object under surveillance	
	person under surveillance	
	\Box retrieve —	
	a listening device	
	an optical surveillance device	
	□ a tracking device	
Grounds	Imminent threat	

Grounds	Im	Imminent threat	
		Threat of serious violence to a person	
		Name	
		Threat of substantial damage to property	
		Description	

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Crounds cont	Offenee
Grounds cont.	Offence
	□ Indictable drug offence
	Relevant section of <i>Misuse of Drugs Act 1981</i> — $\Box 22(2)(2)$
	$\Box = \Box = G(1) \qquad \Box = 7(1) \qquad \Box = 33(1)(a) \qquad \Box = 33(2)(a)$
	External indictable drug offence
	External law
	Corresponding section of <i>Misuse of Drugs Act 1981</i> — $=$
	$\Box 6(1) \qquad \Box 7(1) \qquad \Box 33(1)(a) \qquad \Box 33(2)(a)$
	$\Box \text{Offence punishable by 2 or more years imprisonment}$
	Offence
	Relevant Act
	section
	The offence —
	\Box has been committed \Box may have been committed
	\Box is being committed \Box is about to be committed
	□ is likely to be committed
	Date offence committed or expected to be committed
	The use of the surveillance device is immediately necessary for the
	purpose of —
	dealing with the threat
	investigating the offence
	\square enabling evidence to be obtained of —
	\Box the commission of the offence
	\Box the identity of the offender
	$\Box \text{the location of the offender}$
	These factors make the circumstances serious
	These factors make the matter urgent
	<u> </u>
	Reasons an application under section 15 or 16 for a warrant is not
	practicable
	Retrieval to avoid jeopardizing investigation of drug offence
	□ Indictable drug offence
	Relevant section of <i>Misuse of Drugs Act 1981</i> — $\Box 22(2)(z)$
	$\Box 6(1)$ $\Box 7(1)$ $\Box 33(1)(a)$ $\Box 33(2)(a)$

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Grounds cont.	 External indictable drug offence External law:		
	Corresponding section of <i>Misuse of Drugs Act 1981</i> — $\Box 6(1) \Box 7(1) \Box 33(1)(a) \Box 33(2)(a)$		
	These factors make the circumstances serious		
	These factors make the matter urgent		
	Reasons an application under section 22 for a warrant is not practicable		
Entry to	Entry, by force if necessary, is required to —		
premises	□ (specified premises)		
	 any premises where the object or person under surveillance is reasonably believed to be or is likely to be and any premises adjoining or providing access to those premises 		
Use of electricity supply	Authorisation is required to connect the surveillance device to an electricity supply system and use electricity from that system to operate the device		
Removal of vehicle	 Authorisation is required to temporarily remove a vehicle from a premises for the purpose of — attaching installing retrieving a tracking device Vehicle Premises 		
Period of	Period for which authorisation is required days		
authorisation	Reason this period is required		
Signature of applicant	Date		

[Form amended by No. 74 of 2004 s. 73(3); amended in Gazette 5 May 2006 p. 1736; 21 Sep 2007 p. 4735.]

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Surveillance Devices Act 1998, s. 21

Emergency authorisation

Strike out any parts of this form that are not applicable

Authorised	Name			
person	Commissioner of Police			
•	Deputy Commissioner of Police			
	Assistant Commissioner of Police			
	Officer of the Corruption and Crime Commission			
	□ Officer of a designated Commission			
	Person authorised by Chair of Board of Australian Crime			
	Commission			
Person to	Name			
whom	Member of the police force			
authorisation is	Officer of the Corruption and Crime Commission			
issued	Officer of a designated Commission			
	Member of staff of Australian Crime Commission			
Person, object	D Person			
or premises	Unknown person			
under	Object			
surveillance	Premises			
Authorisation	This authorisation authorises you to —			
to use	attach or install 🗇 use 🗇 maintain			
surveillance	a listening device to record, monitor, or listen to a private			
device	conversation			
	□ an optical surveillance device to record visually or observe a			
	private activity			
	a tracking device to determine the geographical location of a			
	person or object			
	in relation to the —			
	premises under surveillance			
	object under surveillance			
	person under surveillance			
	\Box retrieve —			
	□ a listening device			
	□ an optical surveillance device			
	\square a tracking device			

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[Form amended by No. 74 of 2004 s. 73(3) and (4); amended in Gazette 5 May 2006 p. 1736; 21 Sep 2007 p. 4735.]

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Surveillance Devices Act 1998, s. 15 and 19

Application for —

- tracking device warrant
- tracking device (maintenance/retrieval) warrant

Strike out any parts of this form that are not applicable

Applicant	Name			
	Business address			
	Postcode			
	Phone no.			
	Member of police force			
	Officer of the Corruption and Crime Commission			
	Officer of a designated Commission			
	Member of staff of Australian Crime Commission			
	Application is made on behalf of another law enforcement officer (Name)			
Person, object	Person (see note 1)			
or premises under	Unknown person			
surveillance	Object			
survemance	Premises			
	\Box Tracking device warrant (s. 13)			
Nature of	Tracking device warrant (s. 13)			
warrant	□ Tracking device (maintenance/retrieval) warrant (s. 14) to —			
	maintain a tracking device			
	retrieve a tracking device			
	□ maintain and retrieve a tracking device			
	□ New warrant □ Extension of current warrant			
Period of	Period for which warrant is required days			
warrant	Reason this period is required			

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Grounds	Tracking device warrant (s. 13)				
Grounus	Offence				
	Act or Regulations				
	Section or regulation no.				
	The offence —				
	\Box has been committed \Box may have been committed				
	\Box is being committed \Box is about to be committed				
	\Box is likely to be committed				
	Date offence committed or expected to be committed				
	The use of a surveillance device would be likely to —				
	□ assist an investigation into the offence				
	\Box enable evidence to be obtained of —				
	\Box the commission of the offence				
	\Box the identity of the offender				
	\Box the location of the offender				
	Tracking device (maintenance/retrieval) warrant (s. 14)				
	Vehicle Location when device installed				
	Current location				
	Person who installed device				
	□ Member of police force				
	Officer of the Corruption and Crime Commission				
	Officer of a designated Commission				
	Member of staff of Australian Crime Commission				
	Member of prescribed class of persons				
	Specify class				
_					
Entry to	Entry, by force if necessary, is required to —				
premises	G (specified premises)				
	□ any premises where the object or person under surveillance				
	is reasonably believed to be or is likely to be and any premises adjoining or providing access to those premises				
	any premises where the vehicle on or in which the device is				
	attached or installed may for the time being be				
	\Box any premises where the surveillance device to be retrieved				
	may for the time being be				

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Use of	□ Authority is required to connect the surveillance device to an				
electricity	electricity supply system and use electricity from that system to				
supply	operate the device				

Removal of vehicle	□ Authority is required to temporarily remove a vehicle from a premises for the purpose of —			
		attaching		installing
		maintaining		retrieving
	a tracking device			
	Vehicle			
	Premises			
	-			
Signature of				
applicant				Date

Note 1 — Identification of person under surveillance		
The person under surveillance may be identified by a numerical reference identifying the		
relevant law enforcement agency and the year in which the application is made.		
For example —WAPS 1/1999 (for the first application in 1999 by a member of the WA		
police force)		

Note 2 — Lodging of Application for warrant

The application is to be lodged with the magistrate.

An application must be accompanied by —

• an "Authorisation of surveillance"; and

• an affidavit containing a "Statement of facts in support of application for warrant" in accordance with *Surveillance Devices Act 1998*, s. 15(3)(a), (b), (c) and (f).

An application should also be accompanied by a draft warrant in the form of the warrant being sought.

[Form inserted in Gazette 8 Feb 2000 p. 458-60; amended by No. 74 of 2004 s. 73(3); amended in Gazette 5 May 2006 p. 1736; 21 Sep 2007 p. 4735.]

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¹ This is a compilation of the *Surveillance Devices Regulations 1999* and includes the amendments made by the other written laws referred to in the following table. The table also contains information about any reprint.

Compilation table

Citation	Gazettal	Commencement	
Surveillance Devices Regulations 1999	18 Nov 1999 p. 5767-86	22 Nov 1999 (see r. 2 and Gazette 22 Nov 1999 p. 5843)	
Surveillance Devices Amendment Regulations 1999	8 Feb 2000 p. 457-60	8 Feb 2000	
Australian Crime Commission (Western Act 2004 s. 73 assented to 8 Dec 2004	n Australia)	1 Feb 2005 (see s. 2 and <i>Gazette</i> 31 Dec 2004 p. 7130)	
Surveillance Devices Amendment Regulations 2005	23 Sep 2005 p. 4363	23 Sep 2005	
Surveillance Devices Amendment Regulations 2006	5 May 2006 p. 1735-6	5 May 2006	
Reprint 1: The <i>Surveillance Devices Regulations 1999</i> as at 15 Dec 2006 (includes amendments listed above)			
Surveillance Devices Amendment Regulations 2007	21 Sep 2007 p. 4734-5	r. 1 and 2: 21 Sep 2007 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 22 Sep 2007 (see r. 2(b))	
Surveillance Devices Amendment Regulations 2010	6 Jul 2010 p. 3224-5	r. 1 and 2: 6 Jul 2010 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 7 Jul 2010 (see r. 2(b))	
Reprint 2: The <i>Surveillance Devices Regulations 1999</i> as at 10 Sep 2010 (includes amendments listed above)			
Surveillance Devices Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 2012	4 Jan 2013 p. 10	r. 1 and 2: 4 Jan 2013 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 1 Feb 2013 (see r. 2(b) and <i>Gazette</i> 4 Jan 2013 p. 3)	
Surveillance Devices Amendment Regulations 2012	19 Feb 2013 p. 991-2	r. 1 and 2: 19 Feb 2013 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 20 Feb 2013 (see r. 2(b))	

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Citation	Gazettal	Commencement	
Surveillance Devices Amendment Regulations 2015	1 Dec 2015 p. 4820-1	r. 1 and 2: 1 Dec 2015 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 2 Dec 2015 (see r. 2(b))	
Surveillance Devices Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 2016	24 Jun 2016 p. 2339-40	r. 1 and 2: 24 Jun 2016 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 1 Jul 2016 (see r. 2(b) and <i>Gazette</i> 24 Jun 2016 p. 2291)	
Surveillance Devices Amendment Regulations 2016	16 Sep 2016 p. 3941	r. 1 and 2: 16 Sep 2016 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 17 Sep 2016 (see r. 2(b))	
Surveillance Devices Amendment Regulations (No. 3) 2016	23 Dec 2016 p. 5905-6	r. 1 and 2: 23 Dec 2016 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 24 Dec 2016 (see r. 2(b))	
Surveillance Devices Amendment Regulations 2017	18 Aug 2017 p. 4448	r. 1 and 2: 18 Aug 2017 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 19 Aug 2017 (see r. 2(b))	

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Defined terms

Defined terms

[This is a list of terms defined and the provisions where they are defined. The list is not part of the law.]

Defined term	Provision(s)
emergency service	
hospital	
nursing home	
Part 5 record	
prison	
researcher	
superintendent	
surveillance information	
vulnerable patient	

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