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The following Act was passed by Parliament on 13th March 2015 and assented to by the President on 21st April 2015:—

REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

No. 10 of 2015.

I assent.

TONY TAN KENG YAM,
President.
21st April 2015.



An Act to amend the Police Force Act (Chapter 235 of the 2006 Revised Edition), to make related amendments to the Fire Safety Act (Chapter 109A of the 2000 Revised Edition) in connection with fire forensic specialists, and to make consequential amendments to certain other written laws.

Be it enacted by the President with the advice and consent of the Parliament of Singapore, as follows:

Short title and commencement

1. This Act may be cited as the Police Force (Amendment) Act 2015 and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

Amendment of section 2

2. Section 2(1) of the Police Force Act (referred to in this Act as the principal Act) is amended —

(a) by inserting, immediately before the definition of “arms”, the following definition:

““accoutrement” includes surveillance equipment capable of being worn on the body for the purpose of recording a view of, or recording a conversation between, the wearer and another individual;”;

(b) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “auxiliary police officer”, the following definition:

““civilian police assistant” means an individual who is appointed under section 65C as a civilian police assistant;”;

(c) by deleting the definition of “Deputy Commissioner” and substituting the following definition:

““Deputy Commissioner”, in relation to any provision in this Act or its subsidiary legislation, or in the Police General Orders, Force Orders or Standing Orders, means the Deputy Commissioner of Police designated by the Commissioner for the purposes of that provision;”;

(d) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “disciplinary officer”, the following definitions:

““emoluments” includes gross salary, the annual variable component, allowances (whether

monthly, annual or otherwise), bonuses and other benefits but not performance bonuses;

“forensic specialist” means an individual who is appointed under section 65A as a forensic specialist;”;

(e) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “inspector”, the following definitions:

“law enforcement” means —

- (a) activities carried on by any police officer or law enforcement officer in the exercise of any function, power or duty of such an officer in accordance with law with respect to the commission of offences; or
- (b) activities carried on by any police officer or law enforcement officer for the purpose of dealing with terrorism, civil unrest or public disorder;

“law enforcement agency” means —

- (a) the Central Narcotics Bureau;
- (b) the Internal Security Department; or
- (c) any similar department or office of the Government prescribed by the Minister by notification in the *Gazette*;

“law enforcement officer” means —

- (a) a narcotics officer appointed to the Narcotics Service;
- (b) an intelligence officer; or
- (c) a public officer holding a post, or seconded to serve, in a law enforcement agency;

“lost property” means any movable property or cash that has been lost and whose owner is unknown at the time at which it is found;”;

(f) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “national serviceman”, the following definition:

““owner”, in relation to property or cash, means the person who is entitled to possession of the property or cash;”;

(g) by inserting, immediately after paragraph (c) of the definition of “security activity”, the following paragraph:

“(ca) the detention or arrest of individuals that police officers or law enforcement officers are authorised under written law to apprehend;”;
and

(h) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “substantial shareholder”, the following definitions:

““unclaimed property” means any lost property that has been in the custody of the Police Force for the period specified in section 108(2) and in relation to which —

(a) there is no person who appears, to the satisfaction of the Commissioner, to be the owner of the lost property;

(b) there is such a person but that person has not been located after reasonable inquiry;
or

(c) there is such a person but that person has not exercised his right to recover the lost property;

“volunteer ex-NSman” means a special police officer enrolled under section 68 as a volunteer ex-NSman;”.

Amendment of section 4

3. Section 4(2) of the principal Act is amended by deleting paragraph (k) and substituting the following paragraph:

“(k) taking action for the safe custody of lost property and for the disposal of unclaimed property;”.

Amendment of section 16

4. Section 16 of the principal Act is amended by deleting the word “pay” in subsections (1)(b) and (4) and substituting in each case the word “emoluments”.

Amendment of section 17

5. Section 17 of the principal Act is amended —

- (a) by inserting, immediately after the words “Except as otherwise specially provided in section 18” in subsection (1), the words “or 110A”; and
- (b) by deleting the words “where the Deputy Commissioner” in subsection (2) and substituting the words “where a Deputy Commissioner”.

Amendment of section 18

6. Section 18 of the principal Act is amended —

- (a) by deleting the words “the Deputy Commissioner to” in subsection (1) and substituting the words “a Deputy Commissioner to”; and
- (b) by inserting, immediately after subsection (2), the following subsection:

“(2A) Whenever by any written law power is given to the Commissioner to hear an appeal against any decision, and the decision-maker is a police officer who, if not for this subsection, may hear that appeal, then despite section 17(1), the appeal must be heard and determined by —

- (a) the Commissioner in person (and no other); or
- (b) if the Commissioner is absent or incapable for any reason of hearing and determining that appeal, a public officer who is not the decision-maker whose decision is appealed against and