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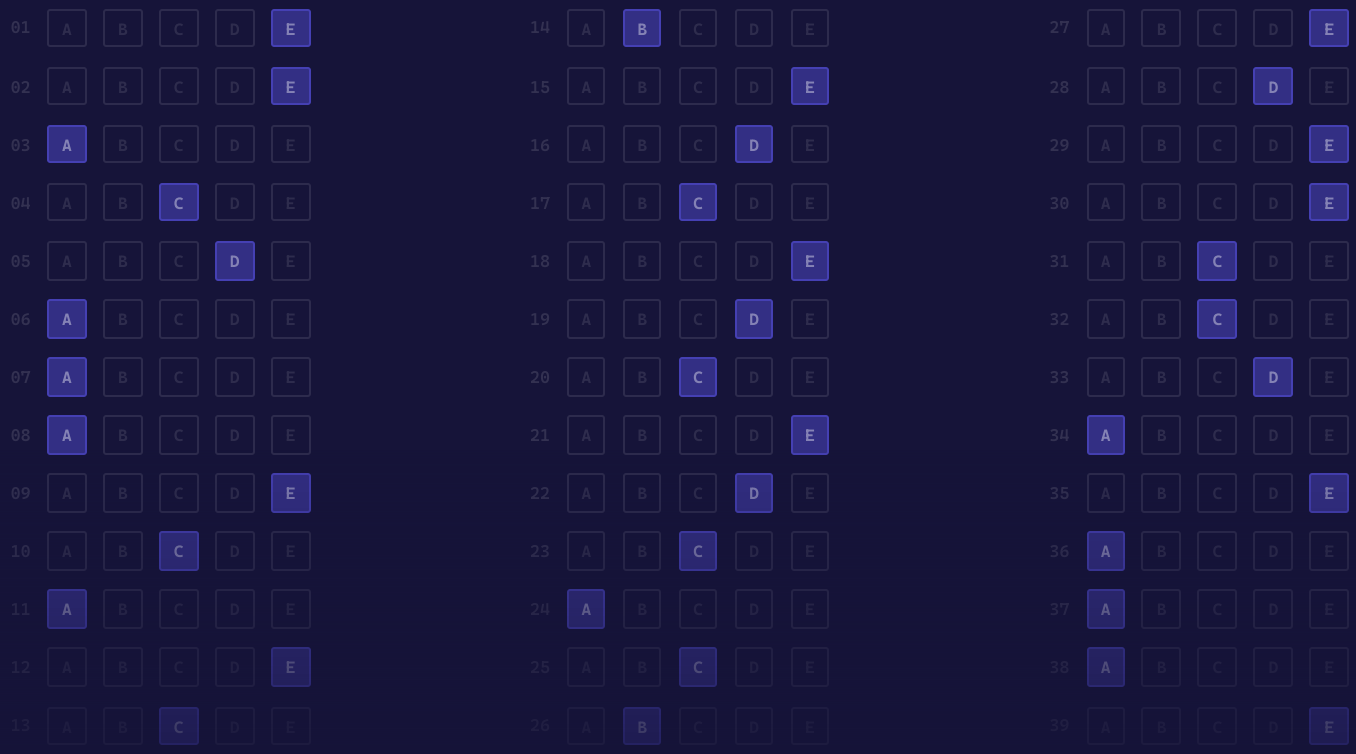

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

CA BUREAU OF SECURITY AND INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES

BMY5NY2X

CA Alarm Company Operator Licensing Examination

EDITION	QUESTIONS	ISSUED
Demo	9	September 3, 2026

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Before you begin

What this is

9 practice questions for CA BUREAU OF SECURITY AND INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES `BMY5NY2X`, each with its answer key and an explanation. Answer a question before you read its key — the explanation is worth more once you have committed.

If something looks wrong

Send us three things and we will check it:

- the exam code, `BMY5NY2X`
- the question number
- the email address on your order

Write to **support@mometrix.net**. We reply within one business day.

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QUESTION 1 SINGLE CHOICE

Which state agency is responsible for licensing and regulating alarm company operators in California?

A **California Department of Consumer Affairs, Bureau of Security and Investigative Services**

B California Department of Justice, Bureau of Criminal Identification

C Department of Consumer Affairs, Bureau of Electronic and Appliance Repair

D California State Police, Private Security Division

ANSWER A

WHY Alarm company operators in California are licensed and regulated by the Bureau of Security and Investigative Services (BSIS), which operates under the Department of Consumer Affairs. The other agencies listed do not have jurisdiction over alarm company licensing.

QUESTION 2 SINGLE CHOICE

To qualify for an alarm company operator license, an applicant must designate a qualifying manager who meets experience requirements. Which statement about the qualifying manager is correct?

A The qualifying manager must hold a separate firearm permit issued by BSIS

B **The qualifying manager must have at least one year of qualifying experience within the prior three years in the alarm business or a related field**

C The qualifying manager is required only if the applicant is a sole proprietor

D The qualifying manager must be licensed as a private investigator as well

ANSWER B

WHY California regulations require a license applicant to designate a qualifying manager with documented experience in alarm-related work, generally at least one year of qualifying experience within the three years preceding the application. The qualifying manager is required regardless of business structure, and there is no firearms permit or private investigator license requirement tied to this specific role.

QUESTION 3 SINGLE CHOICE

An alarm company hires a new technician who will install and service alarm systems. Under BSIS rules, what must the company do before the technician performs any work requiring licensure?

A **File a completed employee registration form with the Bureau within the required timeframe and ensure the employee is registered before performing licensed work**

B Notify the local police department and receive written approval before each installation

C Have the employee pass a federal background check administered by the FBI

D Post the employee's photo on the company's website for 30 days before the employee begins work

ANSWER **A**

WHY Alarm company employees who perform licensed activities must be registered with the Bureau of Security and Investigative Services, and the registration must be filed within the timeframe prescribed by regulation before the employee performs licensed work. Local police approval, FBI background checks, and website postings are not required by BSIS for alarm company employee registration.

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QUESTION 4 SINGLE CHOICE

A central monitoring station receives a burglary alarm signal from a protected premises. What is the required first action of the monitoring operator?

A Dispatch a guard immediately without attempting any verification

B Attempt to verify the alarm by contacting the premises or designated keyholders in accordance with company procedures and any applicable local ordinance before requesting law enforcement dispatch

C Wait 24 hours to allow the subscriber to cancel the alarm before taking any action

D Notify the Bureau of Security and Investigative Services before contacting the subscriber

ANSWER B

WHY Monitoring operators are expected to follow written procedures that typically require attempting to verify the alarm by calling the premises, the subscriber, or designated keyholders and to comply with any local enhanced call verification ordinance before requesting a police dispatch. Immediate dispatch without verification, lengthy waits, and notifying the Bureau first are not the required first actions.

QUESTION 5 SINGLE CHOICE

Many California cities have adopted alarm ordinances aimed at reducing false alarms. Which of the following is a typical requirement imposed by such local ordinances on alarm users?

A Subscribers must register their alarm system with the city or county and may be charged a fee for excessive false alarms

B Subscribers must post a sign on the roof of the building stating the alarm company's name

C Subscribers must replace batteries every 30 days regardless of system type

D Subscribers must hire a uniformed guard whenever the system is armed

ANSWER A

WHY Local alarm ordinances in California commonly require alarm users to obtain an alarm permit or registration with the city or county and to pay service fees or fines when false alarms exceed a defined threshold. Roof signage with the alarm company's name, 30-day battery replacement, and mandatory guard hiring are not typical ordinance requirements.

QUESTION 6 SINGLE CHOICE

A licensed alarm company operates from an office in California. What is the company required to display at its principal place of business?

A **A copy of the alarm company operator license issued by the Bureau, posted conspicuously where it can be read by the public**

B A framed copy of the California Constitution

C A photograph of every registered employee taken within the past year

D A live video feed of the central monitoring station

ANSWER A

WHY California regulations require a licensed alarm company to conspicuously display its alarm company operator license at its principal place of business so that the public can read it. Display of the Constitution, employee photographs, or live monitoring video are not required.

QUESTION 7 SINGLE CHOICE

Which of the following best describes the recordkeeping obligation of a licensed alarm company operator under BSIS regulations?

A Records must be retained only for the current calendar year and then destroyed

B **Records relating to alarm contracts, installations, monitoring, and employee registration must be maintained for the period required by regulation and made available for Bureau inspection**

C Records must be stored exclusively in paper form in a locked safe at the principal office

D Records are maintained voluntarily and cannot be inspected by the Bureau

ANSWER B

WHY Licensed alarm companies must keep the records required by BSIS regulations—including contracts, installation records, monitoring records, and employee registration documentation—for the retention period specified and must make them available to Bureau representatives upon inspection. Short, single-year retention, mandatory paper-only storage in a safe, and voluntary non-inspectable records are not correct.

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QUESTION 8 SINGLE CHOICE

Which of the following actions by a licensed alarm company operator could constitute grounds for disciplinary action by the Bureau of Security and Investigative Services?

A **Refusing to issue a refund that is required under the terms of the contract**

B Paying employees above the state minimum wage

C Operating only between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on weekdays

D Advertising in a local telephone directory

ANSWER A

WHY Misrepresenting services, failing to perform contracted services, refusing required refunds, and similar deceptive or unfair business practices are grounds for Bureau disciplinary action against an alarm company operator licensee. Paying above minimum wage, keeping regular business hours, and placing directory advertising are lawful activities and do not constitute grounds for discipline.

QUESTION 9 SINGLE CHOICE

Under the California Business and Professions Code, the Bureau of Security and Investigative Services (BSIS) regulates alarm company operators. Which of the following statements most accurately describes the scope of BSIS authority over alarm companies?

A BSIS has no authority over alarm companies and only regulates private investigators.

B **BSIS regulates alarm companies, including licensing, examination, and discipline of alarm company operators and their qualifying managers and qualified employees.**

C BSIS regulates alarm companies but defers all enforcement actions to local police departments.

D BSIS only regulates alarm companies that operate central station monitoring facilities.

ANSWER B

WHY BSIS is the state agency charged with licensing and regulating alarm company operators under the Business and Professions Code. Its authority includes issuing licenses, administering the required examinations, and taking disciplinary action against licensees, qualifying managers, and qualified employees. The other options incorrectly limit or deny that authority.