

CITY OF SALINAS

CRIMINALIST

BARGAINING UNIT/CLASS CODE:

SPOA / 002

DEFINITION

To perform as a sworn officer, advanced journey level work in crime scene investigation, photocopy, evidence identification and preservation, and to lead and teach crime scene investigators in these areas.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED AND EXERCISED

Receives general supervision from Administration Division Sergeant. Exercises technical supervision over crime scene investigators and police field personnel.

ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS OF THE POSITION Duties may include, but are not limited to the following:

Responds to police calls. Obtains and preserves physical evidence at crime scenes. Takes and processes crime scene photographs and identification photos. Maintains a Police photo file and habitual criminal file. Takes fingerprints and processes through State C.I.I. and FBI files. Trains other employees in photographic, fingerprinting, and identification techniques. Takes measurements at crime scenes and prepares scaled drawings. Searches, dusts, and lifts latent fingerprints. Classifies fingerprints. Prepares moulages of impressions found at crime scene. Prepares physical evidence for court. Searches files for a wide variety of police information. Prepares complete reports on the results of physical evidence investigations. Conducts preliminary field tests on materials found at crime scenes before sending to State Crime Laboratory for detailed analysis. Performs functional supervision over the Evidence Unit. Maintains computers relating to evidence/identification function. Coordinator, trainer, and technical advisor for crime scene investigators. Testifies in court as an expert witness on photography and fingerprints. Assists in maintenance of criminal records, fingerprints, m.o., and related records. Makes record checks for other law enforcement agencies. Perform related duties as assigned.

PHYSICAL AND MENTAL CHARACTERISTICS

Essential duties require the mental and/or physical ability to maintain physical and emotional conditioning to optimally perform in this position; manual dexterity sufficient to write, type, use telephone, two-way radio, computer, use and control of firearms; see well enough to drive vehicles, read small print on documents and maps, detect subtle shades of color; hearing sufficient to conduct in person and telephone and two-way radio conversations; speaking ability in an understandable voice with sufficient volume to be heard at fifty feet of distance, on the telephone and in addressing groups; physical agility to push/pull, squat, twist, turn, bend, stoop, reach overhead, climb over obstacles such as fences and walls while running in foot pursuit of a crime suspect; physical mobility sufficient to move in and out of a vehicle repeatedly, sprint from a stand-still; physical strength to carry 30 pounds of equipment on the body for period of at least ten hours per shift, occasionally lift more than 120 pounds, repetitively lift up to 100 pounds; physical stamina sufficient to sit and drive for prolonged periods of time, to carry 30 pounds of equipment worn on the body for ten hour shifts and to repetitively move in and out of a vehicle several times per shift; mental acuity and alertness to collect and interpret data, evaluate, reason, define problems, establish facts, draw rapid valid conclusions, make rapid valid judgments and decisions. Other physical requirements as described the P.O.S.T. Medical Screening Manual.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Depending upon specific assignment, this job is subject to hazardous and dangerous work conditions in the field that may include driving a police vehicle for ten hour shifts, occasionally at high speeds while in pursuit or in response to emergency situations. It also may include running for distances in excess of 100 yards while in foot pursuit of crime suspects, and working all weather conditions including rain, fog, wind, sun, and at night. May be

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subjected to verbal and physical abusive behavior, threats, insults, and be in contact with persons that carry weapons and communicable diseases.

QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

Physical evidence detection methods and techniques. Methods and equipment for analyzing and preserving various types of physical evidence. Photographic and development methods, materials, and techniques. Fingerprint identification methods and techniques. Laws and rulings regarding presentation of physical evidence. Modern police record systems.

Ability to:

Classify fingerprints and to find, lift, and compare latent prints. Gather, assemble, and analyze physical evidence. Communicate thoroughly and concisely, both orally and in writing. Operate testing and photographic equipment used in analyzing physical evidence and developing photographs. Establish and maintain effective working relationships with others. Promote the mission, values, and standards of an effective organization. Train others in areas of expertise.

License or Certificate:

Possession of a valid California Driver's License and P.O.S.T. Basic Certificate at time of appointment.

Education and Experience:

An example of the education and experience which most likely demonstrates the skills, knowledge, and abilities required to perform the duties would be any combination equivalent to graduation from high school and 5 years experience with a law enforcement agency as a sworn police officer during which fingerprinting, photography, and laboratory work, and crime scene investigation procedures were conducted.

Reviewed _____
Department Director

Approved _____
Human Resources Officer

Approval Date _____

ORIG: 11-87, REV: 12-94, REV: 10-06