



FORENSIC SCIENCE TECHNICIAN

Classification Title: 272

FLSA: Non-Exempt

EEOC: 3

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES:

This classification comprises technical laboratory analysis and field investigation work in connection with the identification of criminals and investigations of crimes. Work involves development, preservation and presentation of evidence in conjunction with investigation activities and development and maintenance of fingerprint and photograph files and records. Requires the collection and preservation of evidence at crime scenes as necessary.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED:

Work is performed with technical independence under the general supervision of a Division Commander or designee.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED:

May provide limited work direction to others as well as providing training to others. Supervision of other employees is not a requirement of positions in this classification.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES: (Duties may include, but are not limited to the following)

1. Analyzes evidence and determines what chemical and comparison tests to apply.
2. Obtains, preserves and compares latent fingerprints with known fingerprints to establish identity.
3. Classifies, indexes and files fingerprint cards.
4. Assists in evidence collection and preservation during field investigations.
5. Searches for latent fingerprints when needed at crime scene.
6. Prepares physical evidence for transmittal to other agencies for further analysis and maintains log of evidence transmittals and monitors return.
7. Develops written procedures of the tests to be performed.
8. Prepares exhibits for court presentations and testifies as an expert witness.
9. Performs a wide variety of fingerprinting and photographic assignments and works with a variety of law enforcement agencies and prosecuting attorneys in the course of performing the duties of this classification.
10. Completes reports on investigation incidents.
11. Trains new personnel, especially in fingerprint classifications, assists investigators.

12. Performs related work as required.

RECRUITING REQUIREMENTS**KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITY:**

Thorough knowledge of the principles, procedures, techniques and trends in general chemistry, toxicology and microchemistry; thorough knowledge of criminal court procedures and the rules of evidence in criminal law; considerable knowledge of modern methods and techniques of criminal investigation and identification; skilled in the effective use and maintenance of scientific analytical instruments, such as cameras, microscopes and forensic light sources; ability to work independently and to make rational decisions in laboratory and field situations; ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in written form, and the ability to explain scientific matters in an understandable manner; ability to organize, analyze and present data with scientific accuracy and to testify effectively in court; ability to use modern office equipment to maintain a variety of records and files; ability to obtain, classify and compare fingerprints; ability to analyze situations and to take appropriate action; ability to maintain favorable relationships with the public, district attorneys, law enforcement agencies and co-workers.

EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING:

1. Graduation from four (4) year college or university; AND
2. Five (5) years of experience with a law enforcement agency, preferably including experience in police evidence inventory procedures; AND
3. Completion of approved fingerprint training course; OR
4. Any satisfactory equivalent combination of education, training and/or experience relevant to the position.

SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS:

1. Must possess and maintain a valid Oregon driver's license.
2. Must be able to pass a police background check.
3. Must be able to operate a one-ton van (Crime Scene Investigation Unit).
4. Possession of a Latent Print Examiner Certification from the International Association for Identification or equivalent course work.
5. Must possess or be able to obtain certification as a Senior Crime Scene Analyst within one year.
6. Work involves both field and laboratory settings:

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- Fieldwork involves responding to a variety of criminal scenes, maneuvering with sufficient dexterity to obtain fingerprints, visual acuity sufficient to view scene conditions and select appropriate sites to photograph, process and/or transmit prints.
 - Laboratory work involves considerable mental concentration in order to view and identify distinguishing features of fingerprints and photographs, and to mark and record findings. Involves considerable interruptions, telephone communications, maintenance of a variety of records, prints, photographs and deadlines.
7. Involves occasional appearances in court or at depositions.
 8. Bi-lingual language skill is desirable.

Adopted: 8/03