

FIREFIGHTERDEFINITION:

Under direct supervision, performs a wide variety of duties associated with fire prevention, fire suppression and the protection of life and property endangered by accidents, floods, earthquakes or disasters.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO

## House Duties:

Attends roll call and receives and follows orders, instructions, regarding the work to be done. Reports equipment and apparatus missing or needing repair or replacement. Reports results of alarm, radio, apparatus and equipment tests. Locks doors and windows, and secures valuable times from theft, vandalism, and damage at the station. Interacts informally with other members of shift for prolonged periods, under conditions of monotony or extreme stress. Buys food, prepares meals for fire fighters at station, washes dishes, cooking utensils and dining area following meals at station. Cuts grass, cleans sidewalks, maintains flower beds. Straightens up quarters and cleans floor, walls, windows, restroom and kitchen. Tests and reports results of tests for alarm, radio apparatus and equipment. Conducts fire station tours and explains functions of apparatus and equipment. Demonstrates and explains fire equipment use, operating technique and fire fighting duties. Explains fire prevention methods and common fire hazards to the public. Operates weather-monitoring equipment (weather station at one station only). Answers phones and door.

## Apparatus and Equipment Maintenance:

Cleans, dries, inspects, services and properly secures rescue equipment such as K-12 saws, spreaders, pneumatic air chisel, hurst tool, resuscitator. Cleans, dries, inspects, services and properly secures fire fighting and salvage equipment assigned to apparatus (ladders, hand tools, portable breathing equipment, ropes and tackle, ventilation fans, salvage covers and runners; hose appliances, nozzles and extra hose couplings; leather straps and belts, coat, hat, boots). Maintains motorized apparatus (fire trucks) by servicing, checking tires, cleaning, waxing and making minor repairs.

## Readiness Training:

Participates in in-service drill and simulated fire fighting exercises. Participates in daily training sessions in station. Reads and studies fire fighting training materials. Attends formal fire science technology courses outside the department. Informally supervises and oversees activities of less experienced fire fighters. Plans and makes training presentations within the department on first aid, CPR (Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation) and other fire-related subjects. Oversees and informally trains new recruit fire fighters on the job. Maintains records and forms pertinent to training. Reads and works with district maps to locate calls. Uses a Thomas Brothers map book to respond to calls. Receives walk-in fire calls at station.

#### Inspections:

Pre-plans for fires in industrial and commercial buildings to obtain information regarding location of hydrants and standpipes, building layout, hazardous material storage, occupancy patterns and structural information and relays information to other crew members. Pre-plans for fires in residential areas to obtain information regarding hydrant locations, exposures, type of occupancy and areas of high life or monetary loss potential and relays information to other crew members. Inspects standpipes and sprinkler systems, fire extinguishers and preconnected fire hose, fire escapes, ladders and stairways, and detection and fire alarm systems in commercial buildings and recommends correction of identified hazards to occupant of building or property owner. Inspects heating, cooling, ventilating and electrical systems in commercial buildings and notifies building inspectors of unsafe equipment and practices. Inspects hazardous and flammable material storage sites and recommends correction of hazardous practices to occupant of building or property owner. Inspects wiring and heating systems, basements and attics of residences and makes recommendations for eliminating fire safety hazards or notifies building inspectors of hazards. Prepares pre-planning reports and draws pre-planning maps and diagrams. Prepares inspection reports. Inspects fire exits to ensure that they are clearly marked, that doors operate properly and that exits and aisles are kept clear of building occupants and obstructions. Inspects and lubricates hydrant threads. Secures hydrants after use. Tests hydrant pressure.

#### Driving and Positioning Apparatus:

As acting engineer or when assisting engineer: selects shortest available route to emergency site, using knowledge of streets and information regarding temporary obstructions, repairs; drives apparatus according to state and local regulations governing operation of emergency vehicles; operates siren, lights, and other warning devices; maneuvers apparatus at scene of emergency to occupy best fire fighting position and to avoid interfering with other companies; positions vehicle at fire scene to prevent damage to vehicle; operates vehicle in and around fires to ensure safety of crew. Speaks or signals to driver of apparatus to assist in maneuvering apparatus in confined spaces. Stabilizes apparatus using wheel chocks, stabilizing pads and stabilizing jacks or outriggers. Operates mobile radio equipment.

#### Rescue and First Aid:

Locates emergency site and uses shovels and picks to free victims trapped or unconscious in tunnels, pipes, sewers, excavations. Cuts or pries open vehicles and machinery to free persons trapped or pinned inside, using extricator, K-12 saw, pry bar, come-alongs, pneumatic cutting tool, portopower, burst tool. Carries or assists conscious, unconscious or deceased victims down ladder or stairs using drags, slings, cots, scoops, chairs, stretcher or improvised equipment. Removes victims from cars. Hoists or lowers victims using rope and tying knots, e.g., to complete cliff rescues. Removes trapped victims using aerial ladder or elevating platform apparatus. Removes energized electrical wire from contact with victim using hot line cutters, pig tail, and protective clothing, e.g., gloves. Carries victims to ambulance, coronary unit or other emergency vehicles to assist emergency medical personnel. Provides first aid treatment to victims in emergency vehicle while enroute to hospital. Checks pulse and respiration of victims to determine status of circulatory and respiratory systems. Inspects victim for evidence of arterial bleeding or poisoning. Administers closed chest cardiac compression to heart failure victims. Makes non-emergency public service calls (free child locked in room, clean up water from burst pipes, assist invalids who have fallen from beds or wheelchairs). Gives first aid demonstrations. Moves heavy objects or material to gain access to free trapped victims or bodies. Inspects scene of poisoning or drug overdose to determine nature of poisoning and proper antidote and treatment procedure. Calms distraught victims,

relatives and spectators at emergency scenes. Operates and maintains resuscitator. Makes rescues with airpack on in smoky, toxic atmosphere. Performs emergency water rescues. After training, may be assigned to perform paramedic/ALS duties, administering drugs and starting IV's.

#### Hose Lays and Pumping:

As acting engineer or when assisting engineer: Primes pump; computes necessary engine pressure for given hose lay, using established procedures, printed charts and mathematics, under stress conditions; operates throttle and relief valve or pressure regulator, and monitors temperature, pressure vacuum and tachometer gauges to provide necessary pump pressure; operates engine booster tank and pump; drafts water from a static water source; supplies master stream appliances; relay-pumps on extended hose lays. Places hose bridge. Operates hose clamp. Prepares single or multiple lays using appliances such as wyes, siamese adaptors, and other fittings. Makes rapid hose connection to hydrant. Rolls fire hose using manual methods as well as mechanical devices. Makes simple and progressive hose lays on wildland fires, utilizing wyes, clamps and various thread adapters and reducers.

#### Laddering:

As acting engineer or when assisting engineer: elevates, rotates and extends aerial ladder and fly sections for supported or unsupported operation; operates elevating master stream device, and aerial ladder, snorkel or elevated platform. Maneuvers, raises, spots foot, holds, bridges and lowers straight, extension, bangar, attic and folding ladders. Climbs, works from, descends ladders carrying fire victims or equipment using appropriate safety equipment and procedures. Mounts and/or operates master stream appliances.

#### Ventilation and Forcible Entry:

Makes forced entries into property or buildings by climbing walls and fences; cuts locks, chain hasps, and bolts to gain entry to locked areas; and breaks or cuts doors, windows, walls, or roofs using manual and power tools. Uses cutting tools (pickhead and flat head, axe, roof cutter, wire and bolt cutters, auger, cutting torch, K-12) to make forced entries into grounds or buildings. Creates ventilation openings by opening or forcing doors and windows using minimum necessary force and by cutting or breaking walls and roofs. Places ventilation fans to exhaust dangerous gases from work area.

#### Extinguishing Fire:

Locates hidden fires by seeing, feeling or smelling fire and exposes fires by opening walls, ceiling, floors, furniture. Observes fire and smoke conditions and locates fire sources. Operates proper class of fire extinguisher for particular type of ignited material. Dons and operates portable breathing equipment. Operates aerial ladder or elevating platform fire stream from ground controls or platform controls. Uses cutting, prying or drilling tools (pike pole, plaster hook, wrecking bar) for extricating victims and getting at fire source. Uses striking tools (sledge, hammerhead pick, battering ram) for extricating victims and getting at fire source. Operates portable generator to produce electrical power for illumination and running equipment. Locates and operates shut-off valves for gas, electricity, oil and water to remove fuel or source of ignition for fire. Creates back fires to stop spread of grass and/or wildland fires. Positions ventilation fans to safely inject fresh air and exhaust heat, smoke and gases. Restores sprinkler system to service. Carries and operates heavy tools and equipment such as hoses, ropes, extinguishers. Operates in contaminated atmosphere and maneuvers in confined spaces. Uses hand tools such as McCleod tool, shovel, pulaski, chain saw to construct fire line. Operates multiple gallonage, combination nozzles.

#### Salvage and Overhaul:

Removes water from floors, cellar or basements using brooms, squeegee, mop and bucket, water vacuum, siphon or pump. Wedges or clamps sprinkler heads after fire is extinguished. Observes bystanders to protect salvaged property from theft and gives any personal property found to fire officer. Identifies and removes or protects flammable or hazardous materials at fire scene. Recognizes and preserves evidence of arson. Carries burning mattresses and furniture from buildings to reduce fire and smoke damage to building and contents. Tears down or shores up weak and dangerous structural components (floors, roofs, overhangs, cornices). Removes fire debris after fire is extinguished using shovel, mop and bucket, broom and squeegee. Carries undamaged furniture from burning buildings to prevent smoke, fire and water damage to furniture. Piles furniture, clothing and other valuables and covers piled property, walls, floors and stairways with salvage covers, tarps and floor runners. Guards premises where arson is suspected, pending investigation. Secures windows and doors with nails, hasps and locks, and covers openings with wood or reinforced plastic sheeting to protect building and contents from weather and to prevent theft and vandalism. Gathers evidence at scene of fire under supervision of fire officer or investigator. Observes spectators for suspicious behavior. Cuts or bores holes in ceiling or walls and makes stair and ladder chutes to drain water from floors. Constructs fire line to secure a wildland fire.

#### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS

This is a journey-level classification requiring the application of advanced occupational skills in the prevention and suppression of fires and the preservation of life and property threatened by similar emergencies.

#### MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Completion of probationary period as a Firefighter (Probationary) with the City of Santa Ana or two years of structural firefighting experience with a paid fire department.

#### KNOWLEDGE, SKILL AND ABILITIES

Knowledge of: Tool and equipment usage and maintenance; hose practices and techniques; ladder practices and techniques; forcible entry practices and techniques; ventilation practices and techniques; salvage and overhaul techniques; fire service hydraulics related to pump and nozzle pressure, hose function, hose elevation and other factors which affect the flow of water through the hose; fire prevention techniques; emergency related techniques such as rescuing victims and handling difficult or unexpected fire fighting problems at the scene; building design, construction and material characteristics; basic principles of electricity; principles of physics (e.g., hydraulics), chemistry of fire, and mechanics (e.g., of pumps); basic mathematics and formulas to add, subtract, multiply, divide whole numbers, decimals and fractions; weights, measures and capacities to compute pressures and hose lengths; first aid; principles of fire behavior; weather and its effect on fire; wildland/grass fire control practices and principles; radio codes; effective teamwork techniques, including skills to accept, understand and follow orders, to work and live harmoniously with co-workers and to consistently follow through on assigned or implied duties.

Skill in: Reading maps and mapped information.

Ability to: Show patience, tact, courtesy when dealing with crew members and the public; read and interpret complex technical documents in English including blueprints, diagrams, fire fighting manuals and "chem-tech" books; verbally communicate in English to explain fire fighting techniques and procedures to others; write legibly in English.

### SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Possession of a CPR (cardio-pulmonary resuscitation) certificate, E.M.T. 1 (emergency medical technician) certificate and a valid California Class "C" driver's license; no felony convictions and a record reasonably clear of misdemeanors and traffic violations.

WILLINGNESS TO: Work: 24 hour shift, irregular days, overtime, irregular hours, on call, variable shifts, holidays, weekends; perform routine, repetitive work to completion; attend meetings and classes both on and off duty; work under adverse or hazardous conditions such as: fumes, smoke, gases, crowds, heat, noise, dampness, confined space, dust, alone for long periods of time, odors, dark, heights, high altitude, extreme stress, decomposed, burnt or severely dismembered bodies; wear a uniform (uniform allowance paid by employer); train other employees; maintain a clean, neat appearance; travel locally, out of state for up to seven days; work any station in city on short notice.

### PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS DOMAIN

The following physical characteristics affect work behavior and are necessary or important for successful job performance.

Visual acuity to distinguish objects and read warning labels and signs in dark and smoky environment for extended periods of time; hearing to hear radio transmissions, command, and cries for assistance when obscured by background noise; voice quality to speak in a clear, well modulated, readily understood voice, to be heard over background noises; arm pushing strength to push heavy objects away from the body repeatedly; arm pulling strength to pull heavy objects toward the body; wrist and grip strength to operate heavy handheld tools and machinery with arms extended for brief periods; general arm and upper torso strength to carry or drag heavy objects and/or limp bodies extended distances; general leg and lower torso strength to carry heavy objects up flights or stairs and up ladders rapidly and repeatedly; dexterity to make complex body movements involving balance and coordination; reach - must have sufficient reach to remove and extension ladder mounted of fire apparatus; smell sufficient to detect smoke/fires, toxic gases, dangerous chemicals; physical capability to work under adverse/hazardous conditions such as: fumes, odors, noise, gases, dark, confined space, heat, high altitude, alone for long periods of time, dampness, dust, smoke, heights, crowds, extreme stress; general body strength to fully extend a 35' wooden extension ladder twice; general body strength to raise a 50' wooden extension ladder; swim to rescue victims.

Class title change from Firefighter II per Council Resolution No. 83-106,  
effective 9-1-83

ADA Approved: 02/99