

FORENSIC SPECIALIST IIDEFINITION

Under supervision, performs a variety of responsible and difficult technical police identification and photographic work in the laboratory and in the field.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO

Assists in criminal investigations by using advanced forms of evidence processing techniques; locating and obtaining trace evidence; conducting fingerprint analyses; operating the AFIS 21 CAL-ID system; writing detailed technical reports as to findings; utilizing digital photography; and testifying in court as an expert witness regarding conclusions. Incumbents diagram, photograph, and process crime scenes; develop film and make prints and enlargements; lift, preserve and compare fingerprints; index and file identification material; prepare fingerprint exhibits for courtroom use and testify in court as an expert witness; prepare reports; assist in training civilian technical specialists; and exercise lead supervisory responsibilities over assigned personnel.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS

An employee in this class is a skilled technical specialist concerned primarily with fingerprinting, photography and crime scene investigations using scientific methods to determine location and significance of trace evidence.

RECOMMENDED MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Completion of probation as a Forensic Specialist I with the City of Santa Ana and two years of experience as an identification technician, fingerprint technician or forensic specialist, or any equivalent combination of training and experience which provides the following knowledge and abilities:

DESIRABLE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES

Knowledge of: identification and comparison of physical evidence; modern fingerprint classification and comparison systems; operation of laboratory and photographic equipment related to identification and investigative techniques; courtroom procedure and testimony; evidence collection and rules of evidence.

Ability to: maintain records and prepare reports; communicate effectively with other employees and the public; preserve and interpret trace evidence.

CHARACTERISTICS OF SUCCESSFUL PERFORMERS

Successful performers are very careful, detail-oriented and patient in conducting fingerprint comparisons in a systematic manner for extended periods. They make sound decisions which are based on fact, not emotions, repeatedly throughout the day. In addition, successful incumbents develop and maintain effective working relationships with others and can readily and persuasively convey technical information to law enforcement staff and the general public.

Class title change from Identification Technician per Council Resolution No. 80-120,
effective 7-7-80

Revised: 09/01

ADA approved: 09/08