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## Fire Inspector II

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### Summary

Perform technical fire and hazardous materials inspections and enforcement activities related to fire regulations and related codes and ordinances; perform a variety of duties related to conducting fire safety education programs and fire inspections and investigations.

### Class Characteristics

General direction is provided by the Fire Marshall; responsibilities may include direct or indirect supervision of sworn and non-sworn personnel in areas related to fire prevention, public fire education, hazardous materials, and fire investigation activities.

Incumbents in this classification are considered Peace Officers under Penal Code section 830.37 (b) when acting in his/her capacity to enforce laws relating to fire prevention and fire investigation.

### Essential Duties, Skills, and Demands of the Position

*The duties, skills, and demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with a disability to perform the essential duties, skills, and demands.*

#### Duties:

Review, plan, and conduct inspections of new construction, and periodic inspection of commercial, industrial, and other facilities to ensure compliance with national, state, and local fire, life safety, and related codes and ordinances; initiate follow-up notices. When necessary perform follow-up inspection of company inspections.

Perform hazardous material investigations and fire investigations to determine cause and origin, prepare reports of the results of such investigations. Assist in the service of arrest warrants and/or referrals to the district attorney's office.

Prepare detailed reports on conditions and violations and conduct follow-up inspections as required; issue corrective orders and citations.

Investigate complaints and compliance violations regarding fire hazards, hazardous material problems, and related violations.

Advise developers, contractors, property owners, and the public in matters related to fire prevention, code enforcement, and hazardous material storage and disposal.

Interpret codes and regulations and explain permit programs and compliance conditions.

Coordinate fire prevention inspection work with that of building inspection, safety, public health, and related city and local agency services; may also coordinate activities with those of county and state agencies.

Review applications and issue permits; and may obtain fees on behalf of the City.

Inspect and test all types of fire safety and suppression systems for code compliance and proper operation.

Coordinate the City's weed-abatement program.

Assist in developing programs and conduct on-site training in schools, hospitals, and various public locations.

Observe, test, and demonstrate the use of various fire protection and detection systems, equipment, and fire extinguishers.

Maintain accurate records; prepare correspondence, reports, procedures, and other written materials.

Maintain current knowledge of codes, regulations, construction methods and materials, fire protection, and detection systems.

As required, prepare Standard Operating Procedures and inspection guides for use by fire department personnel; develop staff reports, ordinances, and resolutions for City Council action.

Perform related duties as assigned.

Skills/Abilities:

Apply broad and extensive technical knowledge, follow proper inspection techniques, and detect deviations from plans, regulations, and standard safety practices.

Perform journey-level fire prevention inspection for a variety of buildings, structures, and installations; enforce a variety of codes, ordinances, and regulations pertaining to fire prevention and hazardous materials with firmness and tact.

Read and interpret building plans.

Interpret and enforce federal, state, and local fire prevention and hazardous materials codes and ordinances.

Identify fire hazards and recommend corrective actions.

Identify types and determine causes of fires; recognize, identify, and preserve evidence; effectively interview witnesses and suspects.

Work effectively without close supervision.

Comprehend and make inferences from written material.

Participate in structured classroom lecture as both student and instructor.

Develop and conduct fire prevention and fire investigation activities.

Communicate effectively both verbally and in writing.

Establish and maintain effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of the work.

Physical Demands and Work Environment:

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to use hands or fingers, handle, or feel; reach with hands and arms; talk or hear; and taste or smell. The employee frequently is required to stand, walk, sit, stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl. The employee is occasionally required to climb or balance. The employee must frequently lift and/or move up to 50 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and ability to adjust focus.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly exposed to fumes or airborne particles, toxic or caustic chemicals, and outside weather conditions. The employee is frequently exposed to moving mechanical parts. The employee is occasionally exposed to high, precarious places and risk of electrical shock. The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate.

Incumbents assigned to this classification, when performing actual fire cause investigations or other fire prevention activities, will be required to work outdoors in a variety of weather conditions; tolerate very hot and very cold temperatures; move debris and dirt or other material using a shovel or rake; walk over rough, uneven or rocky surfaces; work at heights greater than 10 feet; climb ladders or steps to reach objects; wear a self-contained breathing apparatus; hear alarms and other auditory warning devices; observe or monitor objects, such as fire protection equipment and systems, and buildings and underground storage tanks, or data, such as underground tank test results, to comply with safety standards; work in small, cramped areas; use common hand tools; bend or stoop repeatedly or continually over time; use stomach and lower back muscles to support the body; perform physical inventories; discriminate among colors or match colors of wiring systems and color coded valves and piping; move objects, such as portable generators, tools, equipment and evidence, weighing up to 50 pounds; stand or walk for extended periods of time with the inability to rest at will; and use arms above shoulder level.

When not performing duties in the field, incumbents work in an indoor office setting and are required to enter data into a terminal, PC or keyboard device; produce written documents using proper grammar, punctuation, and spelling; use graphic instructions, blueprints and layouts as part of the plan review process when checking for code compliance; and sit for extended periods of time with the ability to move at will.

**Qualifications**

Knowledge of:

Principles, practices, and techniques of fire prevention department policies and procedures; federal, state and local fire prevention codes and ordinances; arrest, search, and seizure procedures.

Principles and techniques of building inspection work; practices, procedures, and equipment used in fire investigations, including the ability to recognize and collect evidence.

Procedures and techniques of operation of equipment such as fire extinguishers, sprinkler systems, and alarms.

Procedures and techniques used to control hazardous materials.

Education and Experience

*Any combination equivalent to the education and experience likely to provide the required knowledge and abilities would be qualifying. A typical way to gain such knowledge and abilities would be:*

Education:

Equivalent to graduation from high school.

Equivalent to completion of a certificate program in Fire Technology or Fire Science from an accredited college, and California State Board of Fire Services accredited courses Fire Prevention 1A, 1B, and 1C and Fire Investigation 1A and 1B.

An Associate degree in Fire Technology or Fire Science and California State Board of Fire Services accredited courses Fire Instructor 1A and 1B, Fire Prevention 2A, 2B, and 2C, and Public Education 1A are highly desirable.

Experience:

Sufficient fire prevention experience to demonstrate possession of the knowledge and abilities listed above.

Certifications/Licenses:

Possession of a valid California Class C driver's license.

Must successfully complete a POST certified PC 832 course prior to completion of the probationary period.

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