FIREFIGHTER

Definition:

Under varying levels of supervision, participates in all phases of emergency operations to include fire suppression, medical care and hazardous materials abatement; performs fire prevention inspection, participates in and presents public education programs; participates in training activities, station and equipment maintenance and performs related work as required.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

The responsibilities and essential duties performed on a frequent and recurring basis by an incumbent include the following:

Responds as a team member on an assigned company for emergency and non-emergency operations.

Performs fire fighting activities to include laying hose, setting ladders, rescue work, ventilation and fire combat/containment/extinguishment tasks.

Follows the instructions of the Captain/supervisor-in-charge or standard procedures while performing all duties.

Participates in all aspects of Fire Department activities to include fire suppression, hose evolutions, laddering, use of special equipment, hazardous materials abatement, medical aid and fire prevention.

Assists in the planning of and participates in drills and other training activities to learn and improve fire fighting tactics.

Inspects single story, multi-story and high rise commercial and industrial buildings, and private and public facilities to determine compliance with fire safety codes and ordinances.

Enforces fire safety codes via the issuance of notices, warnings and written evaluations.

Participates in routine non-emergency activities to include fire prevention inspections, code enforcement and drills/training.

Participates in and presents educational and public relations programs to the community on safety, fire prevention and other topics.

Performs salvage operations to include sweeping water and removing debris.

Operates a variety of hand and power tools.

Performs in-station activities to include cleaning and washing walls and floors, maintaining living areas, caring for station grounds, making minor repairs to the station, requisitioning supplies and assisting with meal preparation.

Washes, cleans, polishes, maintains and tests apparatus and equipment, makes minor repairs to apparatus/equipment and writes up and submits repair requests.

Relieves a Fire Engineer as assigned and drives/operates a fire engine, other vehicles and equipment.

Lifts and moves objects weighing 75 pounds or less on a regular basis, performs strenuous physical activities and in an emergency drags or carries victims.

Responds to alarms off duty when called.

May perform paramedic duties as assigned.

Other Duties and Responsibilities:

Performs other projects/tasks as assigned.

Assists in supervising/training probationary firefighters.

Class Characteristics:

Firefighter is a multi-incumbent safety class with duties related specifically to the protection of life and property under emergency situations.

Contacts and Relationships:

A Firefighter has substantial and continuing contact with other Fire Department staff, non-emergency public relations contact with a variety of individuals, emergency contact with the public and others and additional contact with other City staff and other fire service agencies.

Qualification Guidelines:

The knowledge and abilities which are required to perform the duties and responsibilities of this class are as follows:

Knowledge of:

Basic firefighting principles and other principles and practices taught during a Firefighter I Training Academy.

English usage and grammar.

AND

Ability to:

Perform activities requiring good physical condition.

Learn technical fire fighting principles and techniques.

Understand and carry out oral and written instructions..

Communicate effectively orally and in writing.

Read and write at the level required for successful job performance.

Establish and maintain effective relationships with those contacted in the course of work and live cooperatively with peers and supervisors.

Exercise self-control and good judgment in emergency/hazardous situations.

Meet the public with courtesy and tact.

A typical way to obtain the knowledge and abilities is as follows:

Education:

Graduation from high school **AND** graduation from a State of California approved fire academy with at least 400 hours of training. The 400 hours of training shall not include EMT or medical training.

AND

Experience:

No experience is required, but some related experience is preferred.

Special Requirements Include:

Successful completion of City-approved physical ability test within the 12 months prior to formal application for the position of Firefighter.

Valid California Class C Drivers License and acceptable driving record at time of appointment, and a California Class B Restrictive Drivers License by the end of probation, and maintenance of a valid California Class B Restrictive Drivers License throughout employment in this position. Note: A driving permit is not acceptable after completion of the probationary period.

Must be at least 18 years of age at time of appointment**.**

Eyesight not less than uncorrected 20/100, correctable to 20/30 with contacts or glasses. Must have color vision sufficient to recognize red, green and yellow colors.

Valid and appropriate Red Cross or American Heart Association cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification at time of appointment and throughout employment in this position.

Possession of a current State of California approved Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) 1 or EMT Fire Service Certificate at time of application and throughout employment in this position,

Must be able to work a variety of shifts and a flexible schedule to include 40-hour, 56-hour and other workweeks, consecutive 24-hour shifts, overtime, emergency call back, holidays and weekends to accommodate City needs.

Physical Tasks and Working Conditions Include the Following:

Work is performed indoors and outdoors. When work is performed outdoors there is full exposure to the elements. An incumbent drives a vehicle on City business and performs physical activity and labor requiring physical strength and endurance. An incumbent sits, stands, walks and runs on slippery and uneven surfaces, kneels, crouches, twists, reaches, lays dry and charged hoses, carries, raises and lowers a variety of ladders; works from ladders while carrying equipment; rappels down elevated areas; climbs stairs, ladders and inclines while carrying equipment; works on rooftops, multi-story buildings and at various heights; ventilates roofs, rescues injured persons from hazardous areas by assisting, carrying or dragging the victim(s); climbs over walls, fences, through windows; crawls through confined spaces and conducts searches. An incumbent uses a variety of hand and power tools and equipment to include rotary and chain powered saws, sledge hammers, shovels, picks, hoists, axes, ropes, hydraulic rescue tools, pike pokes, prying tools, rubbish hooks, hose lines and bundles, fire extinguishers, air bottles and breathing apparatus. An incumbent pushes, pulls, drags, grasps, lifts and carries items and works at shoulder level with hoses and other items weighing 75 pounds or less and drags or carries victims as needed. Incumbents performing first aid and paramedic tasks may also be exposed to human injury health hazards to include blood and other bodily fluids/products, communicable diseases and human-borne parasites. When fighting a fire, incumbents work in a hot, smoky or toxic atmosphere close to flames. Incumbents will also be exposed to extreme noise, wet or damp conditions, grease/oil, fumes, solvents, a variety of chemicals, mechanical and electrical hazards, vehicle hazards and vibration. Incumbents must be able to meet the physical requirements of the class and have mobility, balance, coordination, vision, hearing, sense of smell and dexterity levels appropriate to the duties to be performed.

Fair Labor Standards Act Designation: Non-exempt.

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