

FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTOR I

NATURE OF WORK

This is responsible inspection work enforcing municipal and state fire prevention regulations and promoting public fire safety.

Work involves responsibility for improving conditions of public fire safety through enforcement of fire prevention laws and ordinances as well as accepted inspection standards. Work also involves conducting fire prevention inspection of commercial and public structures including theaters, churches, apartment dwellings, schools, child care centers, and mobile home courts to ensure compliance with fire codes. Work includes investigating fires, bomb threats, and complaints received on businesses for unsafe fire prevention practices as well as inspecting private dwellings upon request of occupant. Although unusual situations may be referred to a superior for advice or assistance, work is normally performed independently following established procedures. Supervision is received from an administrative supervisor with work being reviewed through oral and written reports. Technical and lead supervision may be received from a Fire Prevention Inspector II.

EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Inspects commercial, industrial, and public assembly buildings for all fire hazards including efficiency of fire protection equipment, adequacy of fire escapes and fire exits, and compliance with municipal and state fire prevention regulations.

Advises and instructs building owners and occupants in the removal of existing fire hazards as well as fire prevention methods; and recommends methods of reducing potential fire hazards.

Reports violations of fire safety regulations and established safety standards to appropriate building owners and occupants and prepares written notices for follow-up action.

Examines blueprints of fire detection systems prior to installation.

Inspects the storage and use of explosives or inflammable materials; and secures evidence in condemnation proceedings.

Investigates fires to determine cause and origin as well as to gather evidence including examining the site of the fire, questioning witnesses, neighbors, and property owners, and taking photographs of fire scene; investigates bomb threats including searching premises for unusual or out of place articles and questioning employees; responds to fire safety complaints filed against commercial establishments.

Performs related work as required.

DESIRABLE KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES AND SKILLS

Knowledge of fire prevention codes, ordinances, rules, and regulations.

Knowledge of the principles and practices of fire safety and of inspection techniques.

Knowledge of municipal buildings, electrical, and plumbing codes where applicable to the work.

Ability to recognize and define fire hazards and to recommend effective remedial measures.

Ability to conduct harmonious discussions with property owners and the general public and to persuade them of desired courses of action.

Ability to enforce laws, ordinances, and regulations with firmness, tact, and impartiality.

Ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.

Ability to understand and carry out oral and written instructions.

DESIRABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

Graduation from a senior high school or equivalent supplemented by completion of additional course work in fire science or fire technology plus some experience in the enforcement of fire prevention regulations.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Graduation from senior high school or equivalent, or any equivalent combination of training and experience which provides the desirable knowledge, abilities and skills.

Candidates must also meet such specific physical requirements as well as length and type of service requirements as are established by the City.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENT

Possession of a valid driver's license for operating a vehicle is necessary for the satisfactory performance of assigned duties.