

Title: Latent Print Examiner
PG: 47
Status: Civil Service
Position Reports to: Laboratory Services Supervisor
Department: Police Department

Class Code: 3146
Date: 09/08

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF CLASS:

This is highly responsible technical work examining, evaluating, and comparing finger and/or palm prints. This position is also responsible for the documentation, collection, preservation, processing and/or handling of latent print and/or evidence in a laboratory setting or at/from crime scenes.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

1. Examines, evaluates and makes comparisons of latent finger and palm prints according to prescribed procedures.
2. Applies the ACE-V methodology accurately and reliably in latent print cases.
3. Prepares accurate detailed reports.
4. Searches latent prints from evidence and crime scenes in the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS).
5. Testifies in trials and depositions as an expert witness to latent print identification. Prepares court exhibits to include fingerprint charts for demonstration.
6. Utilizes special processes, methods and equipment for the detection and collection of latent print evidence.
7. Takes photographs of latent prints developed off of evidence.
8. Maintains the cleanliness and operational readiness of all assigned equipment.
9. Operates a vehicle under normal and adverse conditions.
10. Represents the Police Department in a professional manner and gives guidance to citizens when necessary.
11. Prepares FDLE laboratory submittals.
12. Fingerprint suspects and victims for comparison purposes. Obtain inked fingerprints from deceased persons for comparison purposes.
13. Provides training to Police Departmental Personnel as well as other groups in the area of fingerprints.
14. Respond to crime scenes when necessary to document, preserve and collect latent prints.

ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Stays abreast of new trends and technological advances in the field of latent prints by reading peer reviewed articles/journals as well as attending specialized training.
2. Occasionally after hour call-out may be required.
3. Performs related work as required.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS & ABILITIES:

1. Skill in reading and interpreting complex, technical information.
2. Skill in using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of possible solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems.
3. Ability to perform basic arithmetic and mathematical calculations.
4. Ability to analyze information and to evaluate results to choose the best solution and solve problems.
5. Ability to learn and apply investigative techniques as they relate to the collection, preservation and protection of physical evidence.
6. Ability to communicate with the general public and other members/appointees of the agency for the purpose of providing guidance, giving technical direction and/or explaining or interpreting policy.

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7. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with supervisors, co-workers, other City employees and the general public.
8. Ability to manage several tasks simultaneously.
9. Ability to understand and carry out oral and written instructions, as well as give instructions to others as required.
10. Willingness to abide by and support City/Lakeland Police Department missions, visions, goals and objectives.
11. Ability to apply the Analysis, Comparison, Evaluation and Verification (ACE-V) methodology to latent print examinations.
12. Ability to work independently.
13. Ability to work efficiently under high stress conditions.
14. Considerable knowledge of the history of fingerprints and the ethical standards involved with latent print comparison.

WORKING ENVIRONMENT/CONDITIONS:

Most sedentary work. Work involves some walking or standing for prolonged periods of time, exerting up to 10 pounds of force on a recurrent basis and up to 50 pounds occasionally and routine keyboard operations.

The job risks exposure to laboratory chemicals, firearms, narcotics, bio-hazardous material, such as blood, tissue and bodily excretions, contagious diseases, such as HIV, tuberculosis, hepatitis, volatile environments and graphic crime scenes.

The job requires normal visual acuity, and field of vision, hearing, speaking, color perception, sense of smell, depth perception and texture perceptions.

QUALIFICATIONS (EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND EXPERIENCE):

1. Must possess an Associates (A.S. or A.A.) degree or sixty (60) hours of college credit and two (2) years of full time latent print experience. The two (2) years of full time experience shall include the comparison and identification of latent prints.
2. IAI (International Association for Identification) Certification in latent prints preferred.
3. Three (3) years of experience in the documentation, collection and analysis of evidence at crime scenes.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. Must possess a valid State of Florida driver's license.
2. Must maintain a valid home telephone number.
3. May be required to work overtime, or alternate hours, as necessary for the efficient operation of the department. Position may be designated as Mission Critical by Department Director.