

CHIEF POLICE PILOT

DEFINITION

Under direction, supervises the maintenance section of the police aviation unit and conducts new and recurrent pilot training.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED/EXERCISED

Receives supervision from the Air Support Unit Supervisor. Exercises supervision over assigned maintenance staff.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

The Chief Police Pilot is a non-sworn position assigned to the Air Support Unit in the police department. The incumbent trains civilian and sworn pilots under Part 91 of the Federal Aviation Regulations and the Air Support Unit manual, supervises maintenance technicians and assists the unit supervisor with budget preparation, maintenance scheduling, flight logs, training, and safety programs as well as policy development. Incumbent is expected to use sound and considerable judgment in the flight operation of aircraft. The incumbent will be required to work variable hours as necessary which may include nights, weekends, and holidays. This class is distinguished from the Helicopter Pilot in that the Chief Police Pilot is responsible for pilot training, aircraft inspections, FAA compliance of the unit and supervision of the maintenance staff.

EXAMPLES OF IMPORTANT AND ESSENTIAL DUTIES

(may include, but not limited to, the following:)

Trains and provides lead oversight over civilian and sworn pilots in law enforcement aerial patrol operations and ensures pilot proficiency.

Supervises aviation maintenance technicians.

Inspects aircraft and associated equipment to ensure safe operation and works closely with maintenance technicians to determine needed repairs and maintenance.

Conducts maintenance flights, as needed, for EC 120 helicopters and Cessna 206 airplane.

Operates, as Pilot-in-Command, a turbine-powered departmental helicopter for law enforcement aerial patrol operations over the city or within a regional area, responds to calls for protection of life and property.

Works as part of a crew with sworn police officers who, as Tactical Flight Officers, have the responsibility for enforcement of city, county and state laws, actively assisting in all phases of police activity.

Assists with budget preparations, maintenance scheduling, flight logs, training procedures, safety programs and policy development for the Air Support Unit.

Assists unit supervisor in establishing liaisons with other law enforcement agencies in matters relating to crimes and the apprehension of offenders.

Assists unit supervisor in establishing liaisons with Air Support Units of other law enforcement agencies in matters relating to air operations, special operations, safety, formation flights and static displays.

May compile, maintain, or provide mission, flight or destination details and conduct crew/passenger briefings.

May conduct both preliminary and follow-up investigations of departmental aircraft incidents or accidents.

Performs other related duties, as required.

JOB RELATED AND ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

The unique capabilities, mechanical features and maintenance requirements of turbine powered American Eurocopter EC120 helicopters and a piston-driven Cessna 206 airplane, specifically as they relate to flight training and police missions.

The unique capabilities, mechanical features and maintenance requirements of a piston driven Cessna 206 airplane, specifically as they relate to flight training and police missions.

Federal Aviation Regulations, specifically as they pertain to Part 91 FAR operations.

Law enforcement aerial patrol procedures, surveillance techniques, tactics and procedures unique to municipal police departments.

Current related flight instructor/pilot issues.

The general geography of the City of Fresno.

Basic budgetary principles and practices.

Safety principles, practices, methods, and techniques.

Skill to:

Use and operate a computer and applicable software applications.

Ability to:

Conduct Chapter 8 maintenance flights for EC 120 helicopters as outlined in American Eurocopter maintenance manuals.

Conduct maintenance flights for Cessna 206 airplane.

Oversee police aircraft operations under Part 91 of the Federal Aviation Regulations.

Train police officers to become certificated commercial pilots by the FAA.

Train pilots to become Certified Flight Instructors.

Recognize potential mechanical hazards and failures occurring to all departmental aircraft and safely perform necessary emergency procedures and landings.

Communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.

Establish and maintain effective working relationships.

Maintain current qualifications and proficiency as CFI in helicopter operations.

Interpret, apply and explain applicable laws, codes, policies, procedures, rules and regulations.

Conduct pre- and post- aircraft inspections.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Commercially-rated Certified Flight Instructor for rotorcraft as issued by the FAA;
Commercially-rated pilot for single engine fixed wing aircraft as issued by the FAA;
possession of a valid Class II medical certificate as issued by the FAA and minimum
4,000 hours of logged helicopter time as Pilot-in-Command.

Aircraft and Powerplant certificate and previous police pilot experience is preferred.

Special Requirements

Possession and continued maintenance of a valid California Driver's license.

Eligibles certified for consideration for hire will be required to successfully pass an
extensive background investigation and Department of Justice fingerprinting process
before being eligible for hire.

APPROVED: _____
Director of Personnel Services

DATE: _____

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