

SENIOR CRIME SCENE TECHNICIAN

DEFINITION

Under general supervision, provides lead direction to employees engaged in processing crime scenes, evidence and fingerprints used in the prosecution of criminals. May provide lead direction to Cadets assigned to prisoner processing in the absence of the Supervising Crime Scene Technician. Operates automated fingerprint identification and ballistic imaging systems.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED/EXERCISED

Receives supervision from a Supervising Crime Scene Technician, Manager or designee. Exercises no supervision; may provide lead direction to assigned staff.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

Senior Crime Scene Technician is the lead level class in the Crime Scene Technician series. Incumbents perform various identification and evidence duties including fingerprint classification, latent comparison, and other duties related to evidence collection and preservation. Incumbents perform the more complex tasks associated with the operation of automated Fingerprint Identification Systems. This class is distinguished from Supervising Crime Scene Technician in that the latter is the first-line supervisor. Incumbents may be assigned to any shift including nights, weekends, and holidays.

EXAMPLES OF IMPORTANT AND ESSENTIAL DUTIES

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

Provides lead direction and participates in police identification activities, including collecting, preparing, identifying, analyzing and preserving evidence, assisting in conducting special investigations, latent comparisons and filing operation and maintains records including photographs and fingerprints.

Performs the more complex tasks associated with the operation of the automated fingerprint systems, including evaluating prints for entry, purging of fingerprints stored in system, maintaining records, and collecting statistical data.

Participates in establishing and administering training programs for technicians and other department personnel.

Performs various crime lab procedures such as chemical development of latent prints, collecting gunshot residue used for analysis, narcotic presumptive testing, serial number restoration, collection of DNA samples and DNA buccal swabs, crime scene diagramming, and trace evidence fluorescence testing.

Testifies in court as an expert witness.

Performs the duties of the Supervising Crime Scene Technician in the Supervisor's absence.

Operates photographic equipment.

May process prisoners for identification or evidentiary purposes.

Performs related duties as required.

JOB RELATED AND ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

Principles and practices of criminal identification in modern police work.

Standard fingerprint comparison methods, practices, records, and automated fingerprint identification equipment.

Principles and practices for narcotics presumptive testing.

Principles and techniques for collection of DNA samples and trace evidence testing.

Principles and techniques of photography and photographic processing.

Current literature, trends and developments in the field of criminal identification technology.

Skill/Ability to:

Perform tasks associated with the collection, development, and analysis of evidence.

Testify in court as an expert witness.

Leads non-sworn police employees engaged in processing prisoners and/or the collection and documentation of evidence used in the prosecution of criminals.

Work in a variety of weather conditions with exposure to the elements for extended periods of time.

Work effectively in high stress and challenging environments involving various degrees of human trauma.

Fingerprint and photograph deceased subjects in various states of decomposition.

Communicate effectively, verbally and in writing.

Safely handle firearms and narcotics.

Perform duties in helicopters, aircraft, elevated platforms, ladders and roofs.

Operate a motor vehicle safely.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Three (3) years of experience as a Crime Scene Technician with the Fresno Police Department, two (2) years of which must have been as a Crime Scene Technician II.

OR

Three (3) years of experience with a law enforcement crime lab or identification unit and completion of thirty (30) college units from an accredited college or university, which includes fifteen (15) semester units within the fields of criminal justice or law enforcement. Additional qualifying experience may be substituted for the required education on a year-for-year basis.

Special Requirement:

Possess and maintain a valid California Driver's License during the entire term of employment in this class.

APPROVED: Signature on File
Director of Personnel Services

DATE: 2/28/2025

TJ:ar:4/16/14

Revised: JTC:SCM; bn 8/11/19

Revised: SM:jts 2/24/2025