

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CENTRAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES
CLASS SPECIFICATION

CONSERVATION POLICE OFFICER II

POSITION CODE: 09342
Effective: 11-1-02

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF WORK:

Under general supervision, as a sworn statutory peace officer possessing full law enforcement authority, serves as a lead worker in carrying out Natural Resources law enforcement activities which provide public safety and professional enforcement of all Illinois Compiled Statutes with emphasis in the enforcement of laws regularly administered by the Department of Natural Resources in the areas of natural resources management; performs research, development, and instruction to other officers in ongoing program areas critical to effective enforcement operations on a regular basis. Leadership positions are intended to ensure that work assignments are carried out effectively and according to departmental policy in the absence of a higher level officer and during special details requiring coordination and guidance by an officer in the group, e.g., directing patrols and investigations of criminal, civil, and administrative law violations.

- OR -

Serves as a project leader in regional investigations to district Conservation officers; coordinates and assigns work of team members in investigations and raids.

- OR -

All employees beginning their fourteenth (14) year of service as a Conservation Police Officer I, shall be considered for advancement to Conservation Police Officer II provided that their performance is considered satisfactory.

Class Level Exclusion

Covert/undercover officers lacking regular project leadership responsibility are not defined for inclusion in this class of positions.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK:

1. Directs the work activities of lower level officers conducting routine patrols and enforcement activities to ensure assignments are carried out effectively and according to departmental policy; determines specific work methods and techniques when performing details such as boating patrols, body recovery, waterway pollution investigations and wildlife poaching details; takes charge of problem incidents when working with same and reports observations of staff performance to district supervisor for his/her evaluation.

CONSERVATION POLICE OFFICER II (Continued)

2. Directs and/or conducts routine patrols of all lands and waters within an assigned geographical area to ensure safety of the public and to protect the natural resources of the State, e.g., assault, speeding, criminal damage to state property, illegal possession of alcohol or controlled substance; directs inspections and investigations, gathering and maintaining evidence, effective physical arrests.
3. Functions as a regional investigator; receives enforcement problems from district enforcement staff and supervisors; meets with district staff to formulate investigation plans; conducts surveillance of subjects; gathers information from sources; interviews witnesses and suspects; directs local officers to issue citations; serves as complainant; swears to affidavits for arrest warrants and search warrants; goes undercover to purchase contraband; leads team in raid or arrest of suspects.
4. As a sworn statutory peace officer, with thirteen years of service as a Conservation Police Officer I, patrols an assigned geographic area by foot, or assigned boat and/or specialized vehicles such as four-wheel drive, all terrain vehicles, and snowmobiles; performs necessary activities for public safety, protection of the state's natural resources, and legal compliance of equipment used by outdoor recreationists such as checking firearms and firearm registration, checking sportsmen for licenses, checking boats for safety equipment, vehicle violations in recreational areas, patrols (day or night) for poaching and disturbances in parks, and remains alert to illegal possession of alcohol or controlled substances; enforces on-view violations of all Illinois Compiled Statutes when public safety is threatened such as assaults, driving under the influence, or armed robbery.
5. Functions as a covert officer on an intra and inter-state basis, directs and conducts short and/or long term complex and technical investigations of both misdemeanor and felony violations of state and federal Conservation laws; makes periodic cash purchases and maintains detailed expenditure records of illegal fish, wildlife, forest, or other plant products purchased through the department's Cash Investigative Fund.
6. Performs research and development activities in assigned program areas involving gathering information, practical application and testing of new enforcement techniques; provides technical assistance to other enforcement officers in assigned program(s).
7. Functions as an authorized U.S. Fish and Wildlife Deputy Special Agent in conducting investigations into violations of federal Conservation laws and treaties.
8. Receives continuing enforcement instruction in areas of current case law, new and revised legislation, officer survival skills, technical enforcement, policies and procedures.

CONSERVATION POLICE OFFICER II (Continued)

9. Shares relevant confidential information of criminal violations with other recognized peace officers to ensure an integrated investigation of all criminal activity within an assigned geographical area.
10. Instructs, counsels, and provides field training to lower level officers.
11. Performs other duties as required or assigned which are reasonably within the scope of the duties enumerated above.

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS:

Education and Experience

At the time of hire, the person must hold a 2-year degree and 3 consecutive years of experience as a police officer with the same law enforcement agency,

OR

A 4-year degree.

At the time of hire, the person must demonstrate the ability to swim at the following competency level:

- a) swim 200 yards continuously using a breast stroke or front crawl stroke
- b) tread water for 3 minutes, and
- c) retrieve an object from a 10 foot depth

Requires possession of an appropriate valid driver's license.

Requires successful completion of an approved training program such as the Illinois Conservation Police Officer Training Program which includes successful completion of the Illinois Basic Police Training Program.

Requires two or thirteen years of law enforcement experience as a Conservation Police Officer.

Knowledges, Skills and Abilities

Requires extensive knowledge of technical enforcement skills, and officer survival skills.

Requires extensive knowledge of division and departmental objectives, policies, programs and services, and the need to preserve the state's natural resources.

Requires extensive knowledge of common native fish, wildlife, forest and plant species and related natural environments.

Requires working knowledge of all applicable state and federal laws and administrative rules.

Requires working knowledge of verbal and written communication skills.

Requires working knowledge of outdoor recreational and commercial equipment such as fishing tackle, trapping, hunting, boating and snowmobiling equipment.

CONSERVATION POLICE OFFICER II (Continued)

Requires working knowledge of the outdoor recreational participant's habits, methods and techniques and typical means of evading Conservation laws.

Requires working knowledge of proper investigation and arrest procedures, confiscation and handling of evidence, and prosecution procedures.

Requires working knowledge of effective leadership methods and techniques.

Employees will be required to periodically demonstrate continuing physical proficiency as defined by departmental policies sufficient to carry out the duties of the classification.

Employees will be required to periodically qualify with appropriate firearms as defined by departmental policy and applicable law including skill and in the use, care and safety of such weapons.

Employees will be required to periodically complete continued departmental/divisional and other professional training as required by law or by division/departments policies and procedures.

Employees may occasionally be required to respond to special enforcement operations and to incidents requiring immediate response.

Requires ability to work under adverse tactical conditions, exposed to outdoor temperature extremes and inclement weather.

Requires ability to proficiently operate and maintain equipment necessary to perform the assigned duties of a Conservation Police Officer, i.e., motor vehicles, bicycles, motor cycles, two-way radios, mobile data computer, watercraft, outboard motors, firearms, snowmobiles, all terrain vehicles, radar speed meters, sonar depth finders.

Requires ability to direct Conservation Police Officers and to enforce all applicable Illinois Compiled Statutes, federal and administrative laws.

Requires ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions.

Requires ability to work independently and recognize and respond to emergency situations quickly and effectively.

Requires ability to conduct investigations, inspections, issue warning and arrest citations, execute search and arrest warrants, seize and maintain evidence and provide court testimony as a state's witness.

Requires ability to effect physical arrests.

Requires ability to prepare comprehensive written and oral reports.

Requires ability to coordinate and conduct varied in-house training and provide Conservation law and services training to other state, county and municipal law enforcement agencies.

Requires ability to communicate and promote safety education to conservation organizations, school groups, and general public in the safe use of various recreational and sport equipment and various activities related to regulatory enforcement and preserving the state's natural resources.

Requires ability to maintain and establish satisfactory working relationships with the general public, other law enforcement officers, conservation and civic organizations and other departmental employees.