

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CENTRAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES
CLASS SPECIFICATION

CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATOR

POSITION CODE: 09980
Effective: 10-16-96

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF WORK:

Under general supervision, processes crime scenes; assumes responsibility for the evaluation of the scene; develops, secures, and packages various types of physical evidence for scientific evaluation and comparison; prepares reports on the observations and activities at the scene for the law enforcement agency responsible for the investigation of the crime; testifies in court regarding the findings and processing methods used at the scene; operates an agency assigned vehicle to and from various assignments; speaks into, receives, understands and acts upon aural instructions through use of police radios.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK:

1. Drives to crime scenes in an agency assigned vehicle; visually observes and processes crime scenes for physical evidence connecting suspect to crime; includes fingerprints, footwear impressions, hairs, physiological material, etc.; all of these items are collected according to scientifically and legally approved methods; takes photographs of general crime scenes; makes one-to-one photographs of items of evidence such as wounds, toolmarks, fingerprints, etc.; photographs may be taken in black and white and/or color, using several different sources of lighting and a variety of cameras; systematically surveys area; formulates plans of procedure; stands, walks, stoops, crawls, kneels, climbs stairs, ladders and over objects; pushes, pulls and lifts deceased bodies and other heavy objects such as ladders, toolboxes and vehicle parts; makes measurements; records on sketches the location of evidence, furniture and fixed objects pertinent to the investigation; makes an assessment as to movements of the criminal in order to collect suitable standards for subsequent comparison with contaminations on the suspect's person.
2. Attends autopsies to assist pathologist in the evaluation of observed trauma; recovers pertinent evidence such as bullets, clothing, and organs for toxicological analysis, etc.; photographs wounds, identifying details, etc., in black and white and/or color.
3. Testifies and is cross-examined as an expert witness in preliminary hearings, inquests, grand juries, circuit courts.
4. Collects, preserves and transports all evidence in a manner retaining its greatest value when examined in the laboratory; this evidence may be in any form, state of matter, or size - lifts, pushes and pulls these various objects for considerable distances.

CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATOR (Continued)

5. Maintains, in a state of readiness, the vehicle and contents known as the mobile unit; inventories daily supplies; checks all operating equipment, including cameras, strobes, fingerprint kit, casting kit and evidence collection kit; performs preventative maintenance to assigned equipment; maintains fluid levels, tire pressure and related preventative measures for assigned vehicle.
6. Operates alternate light source and electrostatic dust print lifter at scenes for development of footwear impressions, fingerprints, body fluids, hairs, fibers, etc.
7. Studies criminal laws and the latest decisions on search and seizure to be prepared to prove criminal violations; keeps abreast of scientific developments affecting the laboratory and the processing of evidence.
8. Performs other duties as required or assigned which are reasonably within the scope of the duties enumerated above.

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS:

Education and Experience

Requires knowledge, skill and mental development equivalent to completion of four years of college, with coursework in law enforcement or related field.

Requires two years experience in the field of law enforcement, preferably including one year in criminal investigation.

Prefers certification as a Crime Scene Technician, Crime Scene Analyst or Senior Crime Scene Analyst as set forth by the International Association for Identification, Crime Scene Certification Board.

Knowledges, Skills and Abilities

Requires possession of an appropriate valid driver's license.

Requires extensive knowledge of the methods and techniques of observing, collecting, preserving, and interpreting physical evidence.

Requires working knowledge of criminal laws in Illinois and of police procedures.

Requires working knowledge of photographic techniques.

Requires ability to gain and maintain satisfactory working relationships with law enforcement officials, prosecutors, coroners, emergency medical, pathologists and other medical professionals and others.

Requires ability to receive, understand and act upon aural instructions through use of radio.

Requires a clear speaking voice in order to be understood over the radio.

Requires ability to make detailed drawings of crime scenes.

Requires ability to learn operation, effective use of field maintenance and trouble shooting of assigned advanced crime equipment.

Requires ability to be on call 24 hours/day and work in any weather.

Requires ability to report orally and in writing investigation results.

Requires ability to maintain firearms qualifications.

Requires ability to lift 100 pounds, crawl, stoop, walk, kneel, climb and push/pull heavy objects.

Requires ability to visually identify and describe physical evidence in oral, written and sketch form.