

FIRE BATTALION CHIEF

DEFINITION

Under general direction, assists in the management of the City's fire suppression and prevention activities; plans, organizes and directs all fire prevention, fire inspection, weed abatement, fire investigation, and code enforcement operations; enforces compliance with technical and engineering requirements on hazardous operations involving dangerous chemical and flammable gases; performs related duties as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

This position serves as a member of the City's management team. The employee in this position works under the direction, is appointed by, and serves at the pleasure of the Department Head.

REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES

The duties listed below are examples of the work typically performed by the employee of this class. Not all assigned duties may be listed and some assigned duties may not be listed below.

1. Assists the Chief in planning, organizing, coordinating, and directing fire suppression and prevention activities for the protection of life and property; may function as emergency incident commander when necessary, assuming command at emergency incidents and directing operations; assumes the responsibility for departmental operations upon the request or in the absence of the Chief.
2. Supervises the implementation of fire prevention programs; reviews and recommends application of codes, regulations, and ordinances; evaluates building plans; determines code requirements and conducts on-site construction inspections; referring problems to the Building Division as necessary; and evaluates construction plans.
3. Investigates and/or directs the investigations of complaints relating to alleged violations of fire prevention laws, City ordinances and reported conditions alleging potential fire hazard or code violations; investigates and/or directs the investigation of all fires which occur within the City jurisdiction to determine the cause and assist on a variety of topics related to the Departments operation.
4. Analyzes operational and service demands and devises plans to meet needs; confers with legal advisors, citizens, and City officials on fire problems; develops municipal fire suppression/prevention policies; makes public presentations as necessary on a variety of topics related to the Department's operations.
5. Makes personnel selection recommendations and enforces discipline and training regulations; directs the assignment of personnel and equipment and the development and execution of training programs; ensures preparedness of equipment and staff to react effectively in emergency situations.

6. Supervises the conduct of special studies and projects; preparation of comprehensive reports; advises Fire Chief of departmental activities.
7. Represents and supports the policies and procedures established by the City Council, City Manager, and Department Heads.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS

Education and/or Experience

Certified by the California State Board of Fire Services as a Fire Officer, three years of progressively responsible management experience in municipal fire protection and a minimum of one year experience at the rank of Fire Captain or above. Graduation from an accredited college with a Bachelor's Degree in public business administration or organizational leadership is desirable.

Knowledge of:

Principles, practices, and techniques of fire science and administration; causes, prevention, and control of fire; codes, laws, and regulations related to fire suppression and prevention; public education techniques; supervisory and public relations techniques; interagency communications and assistance techniques and practices; municipal organization and administration; principles and practices of fire department administration; arson investigation techniques; physical layout and composition of the City including special fire problems; administrative procedures and techniques; and personnel administration principles and practices.

Ability to:

Develop comprehensive plans to satisfy future needs for department service; learn, interpret, explain and apply laws, regulations, rules, and department policy and procedures; think and act appropriately in emergency situations; supervise the work of others; plan, organize, assign, and direct the activities of department staff; understand and follow verbal and written directions; write clear, concise, and accurate reports; use and care for department equipment; establish and maintain effective working relationships with superiors, peers, subordinates and the general public; communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing; analyze situations and resolve through established policy; and make public presentations.

Special Requirements

Possession of or ability to obtain a valid California Driver's License.

Applicant shall be disqualified from further employment consideration if said applicant has smoked tobacco within one year immediately preceding the date of the applicant's selection interview. Upon appointment, a new employee shall sign a statement affirming that, as a condition of continued employment in the Porterville Fire Department, he/she will refrain from smoking tobacco.

Physical Demands

Strength, stamina and dexterity to sit in vehicles operating on rough roads, wild land areas and off road terrain; withstand extended periods of physical exertion; walk on

uneven or slippery surfaces; move from place to place within the fire station and at emergency sites; repeatedly stoop, stand and sit. Dexterity and coordination to handle fire equipment, apparatus and large and small tools; occasional lifting of objects weighing up to 50 lbs.; strength to move the weight of an average human body; reach for items above the head and below the feet; climb up and down ladders; enter confined spaces and other areas; visual acuity sufficient to read gauges and observe conditions at emergency sites in a variety of lighting conditions, including bright light, low light, and low visibility conditions.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Work in outdoor and indoor environments with intermittent to frequent exposure to a variety of extreme weather conditions including heat, rain, snow, cold, wind and dust. Work under significant risk conditions such as fire, injury and death. Occasional work in confined areas. Work is typically performed independently. Exposure to hazardous materials.

Date Adopted: 1/16/2019