

CRIMINALIST III

NATURE OF WORK IN THIS CLASS:

This is complex professional laboratory work in the chemical, physical, and biological analysis and comparison of criminal evidence.

Employees in this class perform the full range of complex professional criminalist duties, including independent work in specialized areas of the profession.

Employees often serve as a leader over less experienced professional staff.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK: (These examples do not list all the duties which may be assigned; any one position may not include all the duties listed.)

Leads the work of lower level criminalist.

Plans, initiates and guides research projects in the chemical and physical analysis and examination of criminal evidence employing the fields of forensic sciences.

Reviews and updates existing laboratory procedures and makes recommendations in the establishment of changes in analytical methodology, policies and procedures.

Performs complex laboratory examinations in chemical, microscopic spectrographic, x-ray diffraction, photographic, gas, column and thin layer chromatographic infra-red and ultra-violet spectrophotometric, electrophoretic, immunoelectrophoretic procedures which are too difficult for lower level criminalists.

Develops new methods of identifying new drugs of organic or synthetic origin.

Conducts research in the development of new techniques, methods and equipment to meet the technical evolution of criminal investigation and evidence analysis.

Makes field investigations at scenes of crimes and other pertinent locations.

Reconstructs situations and physical evidence of a crime to demonstrate proof of connection of persons, instruments, or materials with the crime.

Testifies as an expert witness regarding scientific facts found in the analysis of evidence.

Coordinates with police officers, attorneys, private experts and other officials on plans for the solution of problems involving the analysis, identification and comparison of physical evidence.

Page 2

CRIMINALIST III

Studies new techniques and procedures in the field of criminalistics.

Assumes responsibility of all administrative and organizational functions of a Laboratory Section.

Assists training officials in maintaining training programs for university interns and trainees from other agencies.

Conducts educational and public relations programs pertaining to criminalistics.

Performs other related work as required.

MINIMUM KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES AND SKILLS:

Knowledge of the principles, methods, materials, equipment and techniques of criminalistics and investigation.

Knowledge of the principles of chemistry, physics, biochemistry, physiology, zoology, botany, and photography as they relate to criminalistics.

Knowledge of recent developments, current literature and sources of information in the field of criminalistics.

Knowledge of the specialties of criminal identification and changing and developing trends in crime detection.

Knowledge of the rules of evidence as they relate to the presentation of technical analysis of criminal evidence.

Knowledge of the applicability and limitation of x-ray diffraction and spectrographic methods as they apply to problems of criminalistics.

Knowledge of ballistics, toxicology, micrography, photomicrography, forensic chemistry, spectroscopy, diffractometry and stoichiometry.

Knowledge of law enforcement practices and procedures.

Ability to lead the work of others.

Ability to detect research requirements and to plan and execute a scientific research project or program.

Ability to perceive normal color and to perform extensive microscopic work.

Page 3
CRIMINALIST III

Ability to work effectively with the public and employees.

Ability to communicate effectively, orally and in writing.

Skill in the use of laboratory equipment for performing required tests and examination.

MINIMUM EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING:

a) Three years of experience in crime laboratory work and graduation from a recognized college or university with a Bachelor's degree in physics, chemistry, biology, police forensic sciences, or criminalistics; or

b) Any equivalent combination of experience and training beyond a Bachelor's degree which provides the minimum knowledge, abilities and skills.

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DAVID R. FLORES, Executive Director
Civil Service Commission