



Classification: Laboratory Evidence Technician II

Title Code: V00526

Pay Range: 16

POSITION SUMMARY:

This is an experienced technical position where the employee is responsible for receiving, securing, and returning physical evidence submitted to the laboratory by law enforcement agencies for analysis in criminal cases. Work involves general clerical duties (e.g., answering telephone inquiries, typing and maintaining various laboratory records and files, etc.). Work may include cleaning; working with biological and chemical hazards; communicating with law enforcement agencies, attorneys, and various state agencies in reference to cases or evidence samples. An employee in this position may come in contact with contaminated materials while handling evidence. An employee in this position participates in a formal and on-the-job continuing education training. Work is performed under general supervision.

DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES PERFORMED:

(Any one position may not include all of the duties listed nor do the listed examples include all tasks which may be found in positions of this class.)

Receives and returns physical evidence for laboratory analysis using current proper procedures; maintains chain of custody for each piece of evidence submitted from law enforcement agencies (i.e., contaminated blood, urine, semen and other body fluids that may harbor infectious diseases or unknown pathogens).

Transports, stores and accounts for all physical evidence including drugs, DNA samples, confiscated currency, hazardous materials, weapons, etc., according to current proper crime laboratory procedures. Conducts inventory and audits of all evidence stored within the Crime Laboratory bi-annually.

Handles hazardous chemicals, contaminated razor blades, hypodermic needles, knives, contaminated blood, which may contain HIV, hepatitis or other unknown pathogens, etc.

Maintains the integrity of evidence by following appropriate chain of custody procedures and storage requirements (e.g., locating, sealing or unsealing, initialing, dating, labeling, and retrieving or returning to proper storage area).

Answers the telephone; screens calls; handles routine inquiries and transfers calls to proper personnel; contacts law enforcement agencies, prosecuting attorneys for case related information; distributes subpoenas to appropriate laboratory personnel.

Disseminates information to the appropriate authority while maintaining confidentiality of other customers.

Files and maintains laboratory reports, records and other related correspondence as required; issues periodic and special reports as assigned; archives case files; assists in the preparation of materials for court appearances; may appear in court as a witness.

Provides advice to law enforcement officers delivering evidence in the proper method of packaging, sealing, and labeling of evidence; aids in the preparation of forms that accompany evidence dealing with examinations requested and background information of the case.

Cleans and monitors office equipment; contacts manufacturer to obtain assistance in repairing equipment; performs quality control checks and readings on refrigeration units.

Orders, stocks, and stores chemicals, enzymes, reagents, buffers, and supplies necessary to perform laboratory tests; and maintains a supply inventory and reorders as needed.

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Performs job-related travel in-state and out-of-state to attend training seminars, transfer evidence and appear in court, as needed.

Maintains manual and computer databases, inventories, and QA/QC logs.

Performs routine and specialized work area cleaning and decontamination duties using appropriate chemicals and housekeeping materials.

Assist with the preparation of evidentiary samples for testing and maintain accurate detailed records.

Activates and deactivates laboratory security system.

Provides laboratory access to authorized personnel and documents access as needed.

Performs other related duties as assigned.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:

Knowledge in the use of safety equipment (i.e., protective eye wear, latex gloves, lab coats, etc.).

Knowledge of the safety rules and procedures associated with laboratory equipment and chemicals, including, but not limited to, biological and chemical hazards.

Ability to accept safety hazard risks and potential personal harm associated with evidence handling.

Ability to communicate and interact effectively in the explanation of evidence transfers to other law enforcement agencies, prosecutors and court personnel.

Knowledge of the statutory requirements and Patrol policies and procedures regarding the dissemination of information.

Ability to identify authorized, legitimate requests for case information and maintain confidentiality.

Ability to calibrate, clean, repair, and maintain office equipment.

Ability to maintain a high level of knowledge of job responsibilities and provide training to new employees.

Ability to be careful and observe proper chain of custody when utilizing the postal service in accepting and delivering physical evidence.

Knowledge of the laboratory information management system (LIMS) and ability to enter data accurately.

Ability to review laboratory records for accuracy, clarity, and completeness.

Ability to create and/or revise discipline specific manuals, procedures and instruction.

Ability to alphabetize, transport, file, and purge records/documents.

Ability to maintain confidential clerical records and files.

Ability to make sound decisions pertaining to laboratory office procedures involving the handling of evidence in the absence of the supervisor.

Knowledge of the chain of custody and storage requirements of evidence in reference to the various disciplines of the laboratory.

Knowledge of learn laboratory security policy and procedures.

Ability to learn the preparation of court documents for court appearances.

Ability to testify to findings of fact in court and for depositions; maintain composure while under cross-examination in regard to personal and professional qualifications.

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Ability to converse with law enforcement agencies and attorneys statewide in a tactful and professional manner over the telephone and in person.

Ability to handle firearms, explosive materials, and biological and chemical hazards in a safe manner using proper protocols and safety procedures.

Ability to handle evidence and prepare samples without causing deleterious change.

Ability to route phone calls and mail to appropriate division personnel.

Ability to transport awkward articles to proper storage facilities (i.e., suitcases, tires, doors, etc.).

Ability to transport tools, equipment, and evidence to other locations in the state.

Ability to climb stepladders to retrieve/store articles of evidence.

Ability to recognize, identify and document case details accurately.

Ability to perform work in accordance with prescribed procedures, and prepare accurate documentation.

Ability to maintain accurate manual and computer databases, inventories, and QA/QC logs.

Ability to perform job-related travel (e.g., relaying evidence, appearing in court, and attending training seminars, meetings, etc.).

Ability to effectively use cleaning solutions in the work area according to manufacturer's recommendations.

Ability to operate basic office equipment as detailed in the description of duties.

Ability to handle restricted and confidential information in a professional manner and maintain the information as such.

Ability to communicate in English clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.

Ability to establish and maintain harmonious working relations with others.

Ability to work with material that may be of a sexual nature relating to criminal activity (e.g., written material, photographs, and/or verbal language, etc.).

Ability to work hours as assigned.

MINIMUM EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION REQUIRED:

(The following represents the minimum qualifications used to accept applicants, provided that equivalent substitution may be permitted in case of deficiencies in either experience or education.)

Graduation from high school or possess a GED.

AND

Two years as a Laboratory Evidence Technician I or comparable experience.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

Must provide a DNA sample to be used only for forensic identification as required at the time of appointment.

Must be able to pass a polygraph examination after conditional offer of employment.

FLSA STATUS: Non-Exempt

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WORK SCHEDULE: An employee in this position works an eight-hour shift as directed; however, working hours are subject to change at the discretion of the commanding authority.