

FIREFIGHTER

MAJOR FUNCTION

This is specialized public safety work in the protection of life and property through performance of general fighting duties and responsibilities of an emergency and hazardous nature. An employee in this position must be able to act without direct supervision and exercise judgment in meeting emergencies.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS *

The following statements describe the principal functions of this job and its scope of responsibility, but should not be considered an all-inclusive listing of work requirements. Individuals may perform other duties as assigned, including working in other functional areas to cover absences or relief, to equalize peak work periods, or otherwise to balance the work load.

- Performs Firefighter duties for the protection of life and property. Inspects buildings and facilities and properties for safety hazards upon request of owner or occupant.
- Learns, understands and abides by all Fire Department Standard Operational Procedures Manual and general orders. Participates in training sessions dealing with rescue and emergency situations and maintains a high level of job proficiency.
- Takes regular turn in housekeeping of living quarters and maintenance and grounds keeping of the station.
- Operates fire equipment as emergencies and conditions demand. Services and makes repairs to firefighting equipment as assigned, performing such duties as inspecting, cleaning and testing apparatus daily.
- Completes all necessary paperwork. Be able to determine and understand fire behavior, the burning process, heat transfer, products of combustion, classification of fires and the methods used for extinguishment.
- Ability to operate and inspect a variety of types of fire extinguishers, how to tie and utilize ropes and knots for equipment and safety. Thorough understanding of self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), types, how and when to use, inspection and care and safety precautions regarding the SCBA. Being able to use ladders when necessary. Being able to use forcible entry tools, as well as understanding of types, care, maintenance, and safety usage of these tools.
- Required to report to work at the appointed hour, as scheduled, and to work the entire assigned shift.

Performs the following:

- Upon arrival at the scene of a major incident, may be required to lay supply line (fire

FIREFIGHTER

hose) manually using both hands and pulls supply line from back of fire truck and wraps it around hydrant and visually monitors truck. Manually attaches fire hose to hydrant and manually uses hydrant wrench, turns hydrant to allow water to flow. Physical strength is required to turn on hydrant valve.

- Reports and receives additional verbal instructions. Pulls 200 feet of pre-connected 1 3/4 inch attack line from side of vehicle and holding line with both hands, advances toward fire.
- Will assist in placement of utilization of heavy appliance (a device which allows the flow of large amounts of water.) Lifts line over shoulder and uses physical strength to continually pull line. Upon charging of attach line, proceeds to fire scene and stands and holds line to fire base, bends, stoops but mainly crawls while inside of structures and pulls line along to put out fires. Due to circumstances of fires will remain inside putting out fires for periods of 15 to 30 minutes on a regular basis. Will also conduct search and rescue in 2 person teams or may work alone.
- Upon emergency notice (an audible alarm) dons emergency equipment, weighing 85 pounds and climbs onto engine. Based on type of emergency, will perform a variety of tasks ranging from extrication, delivering of direct patient care, and firefighting duties. Physical agility, strength and stamina used during emergency situations. Will extricate by a variety of methods ranging from holding and using rescue saw (weighs 50 pounds), holding and using the hurst tool (weight 75 pounds) and applying physical strength to pry open doors, hoods, and separate heavy metal objects. Manually uses hux bars, pry bars and applies physical strength to clear way to reach trapped and injured patients. Bends, stoops, crawls, leans, stands, reaches overhead to operate these tools. Visually and audibly alert to detect hazards for safety concerns. Remains calm and professional during emergency situations and constantly follows proper safety procedures.
- With little or no visibility crawls throughout structure by hand, searches for potential victims. Upon finding persons, will physically remove them by dragging or carrying them out of structure to safety.
- Performs ventilation of structure by carrying and placing ladders outside of structures. Climbs ladder to point above seat of fire and carries tools with them to designated location. Manually cuts roof open with ax, chain saw or rescue saw. Ladders will vary in length depending on structure. Ladders extend 85 feet above ground and agility and speed is required to reach designated areas and for some emergencies to physically remove victims from roofs and similar heights.
- Ventilation systems, sprinkler systems and other types of water supplies. How and when to use alternative water supply source and location of, care of, general maintenance, and usage of fire streams, extinguishing properties of water, types of water pressures, and variety of foam and foam application. Job functions require being able to bend and stoop, push, pull, reach overhead, be able to carry a 200 pound person from a building. Requires frequent standing and walking for extended periods of time.

SECONDARY FUNCTIONS

FIREFIGHTER

- Performs other tasks as assigned.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

This is a front-line position for providing excellent customer service to members of the general public and other County employees. Personal contact occurs with other employees of the unit, employees of other departments in the County, citizens, and customers of the department. Close interaction with representatives from environmental regulatory agencies of the State and occasionally Federal governments. Service is provided in person or by phone contact.

EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE, LICENCES, CERTIFICATIONS

Education and Experience

High School graduate or its equivalent; at least 18 years of age. Must have physical examination, including an EKG prior to employment. Physical requirements as stipulated by Florida Statutes, Chapter 633.34 and satisfy requirements of NFPA 1582.

License

Must possess a valid state of Florida Driver License. EVOC required before operating any County owned vehicles.

Certifications

Florida State Certified Firefighter, American Heart Association or Red Cross CPR card, AIDS awareness course.

JOB SKILLS

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed here are representative of the knowledge, skills, and ability required.

Specialized Skills and Abilities

- Ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions.
- Knowledge of a wide variety of methods and procedures of emergency and rescue operations.
- Ability to react quickly and calmly during emergencies.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with fellow employees and supervisor.
- Ability to operate complex equipment; possession of mechanical aptitude, strength and ability to do manual and mechanical work under adverse conditions.

FIREFIGHTER

- Ability to operate heavy emergency equipment safely and efficiently. Ability to complete correct calculations of engine pressures required for necessary hookups.
- Knowledge of firefighter techniques, methods and equipment.
- Ability to remain calm in stressful situations.
- The ability to take a teamwork approach to the job by cooperating with others, offering to help others when needed, and considering larger organization or team goals rather than individual concerns. Includes the ability to build a constructive team spirit where team members are committed to the goals and objectives of the team.

WORK ENVIRONMENT

Diversified work environment ranging from tasks performed inside assigned station and off-site at emergency scenes. Majority of duties are performed outside at varying heights and elevations in varying terrain with exposure to extreme weather conditions. Operations typically expose employees to a wide variety of adverse or hazardous environments. Employees are exposed to extreme temperature variations, loud noises, fumes, and noxious or airborne particles and potentially hazardous diseases and substances. The employee may occasionally be exposed to explosives, toxins, radiological particles (including mutagens and teratogens), and excessive vibration. Services are performed anywhere inside the particular zone as designated by Marion County Fire Service. This could be a fire station, Marion County streets, forest areas, or private homes. An employee in this position must be able to act without direct supervision and exercise judgment in meeting emergencies. General supervision is received from the Fire Services

Administrator, or his authorized representative. Work is performed during the normal work day shift, however emergency work after hours and on holidays may be required. Shift work is involved. Shifts are 24 hours long. Other employees do this work at the same time at other locations.

* This section of the job description is not intended to be a comprehensive list of duties and responsibilities of the position. The omission of a specific job function does not absolve an employee from being required to perform additional tasks incidental to or inherent in the job.

revised 6/2009