

FIRE INSPECTOR I

MAJOR FUNCTION

This is highly professional work responsible for inspecting public, commercial, and multi-family residential structures for compliance with applicable fire codes.

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.

- Inspects public, commercial, and multi-family residential structures to ensure compliance with county, state, and federal fire codes and ordinances for compliance with fire codes.
- Conducts inspections of fire hazard complaints and underground storage tanks for compliance with county, state, and federal regulations.
- Works closely with other city, county, and state departments or bureaus to maintain uniformity of code interpretations and policies.
- Provides technical consultative assistance to architects, engineers, builders, developers and owners addressing code related needs or deficiencies pertaining to fire protection.
- Provides on-scene technical support and information on property fire protection features, equipment, or devices and structural conditions or hazards to command officers during major fires, hazardous materials incidents, or complicated or unusual rescue or emergency incidents.
- Provides technical assistance and advice relating to application, enforcement, and interpretation of codes and standards relating to fire protection to Fire Department members and other code enforcement personnel.
- Provides technical support in fire investigations with reference to performance of fire safety features which are required or provided, ignition scenarios, and fire development, and testifies as an expert witness when required in either civil or criminal proceedings.
- Assists with technical training of code enforcement and fire suppression staff in specialized areas of fire protection and inspection.
- Assists with training personnel in the proper techniques for pre-planning facilities.
- Advises the Division Chief regarding technical matters related to fire protection and makes recommendations for improvement of services delivered by the department.
- Required to report to work at the appointed hour, as scheduled, and to work the entire assigned schedule.

SECONDARY FUNCTIONS

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- Prepares and delivers presentations relating to fire safety and code enforcement matters on request for professional organizations, fire and building code officials, and civic groups.
- Stays current with technological advances related to urban/rural fire protection and life safety.
- Performs all other tasks as necessary to fulfill the mission of Fire Inspector.

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. Service is provided in person or by phone contact.

SUPERVISION

This position has no supervisory responsibility.

EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE, LICENSES, AND CERTIFICATIONS

Education and Experience

Associate's degree (A.A.) or equivalent from two-year college or technical school; with one year related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience.

Licenses

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

Certifications

Florida State Certified Fire Safety Inspector, Storage Tank Inspector, and Hazardous Materials Operations.

JOB SKILLS

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

Language Skills

- Ability to read, analyze, and interpret general business periodicals, professional journals, technical procedures, or governmental regulations.
- Ability to write reports, business correspondence, and procedure manuals.
- Ability to effectively present information and respond to questions from groups of managers, clients, customers, and the general public.

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Mathematical Skills

- Ability to calculate figures and amounts such as discounts, interest, commissions, proportions, percentages, area, circumference, and volume.
- Ability to apply concepts of basic algebra and geometry.

Problem Solving Abilities

- Ability to solve practical problems and deal with a variety of concrete variables in situations where only limited standardization exists.
- Ability to interpret a variety of instructions furnished in written, oral, diagram, or schedule form, and interpret complex and detailed technical data.
- May participate in development of policy, programs, plans, or procedures.
- Study manual work process to determine most effective methods for essential tasks.

Specialized Skills and Abilities

- Ability to read and interpret fire codes, ordinances, building codes, plans, specifications, and systems descriptions.
- Ability to plan procedures for fire prevention and fire suppression and to teach these procedures.
- Ability to write clear and comprehensive reports, communicate effectively with individuals and groups, and establish and maintain effective working relationships.
- Thorough knowledge of building construction, design, and materials as related to fire prevention, fire control, and life safety.
- Thorough knowledge of fire protection codes, principles, standards, and practices.
- Thorough knowledge of fixed fire protection systems, fire resistance rating systems, and fire detection, alarm, and suppression systems.
- Thorough knowledge of fire resistance of construction usage and contents of building, availability of water supplies and water delivery, and entrance/exit capabilities.
- Thorough knowledge of fire behavior and dangerous properties of flammable and hazardous substances.
- Knowledge of fire department organization, operations, and public management.
- Thorough knowledge of water, sewer, public utility, and mechanical systems.
- Ability to perform all work requiring good physical condition.

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- Ability to remain calm in stressful situations.
- 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.

Machines and Equipment

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to use/operate a computer, telephone, passenger vehicle, and camera, including fire apparatus, standard equipment, protective gear and equipment, communications equipment, and other general office equipment. The employee occasionally will use a ladder or pitot gauge.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to reach with hands and arms; climb or balance; stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl; talk or hear. The employee is frequently required to stand, walk, or sit; to use hands to handle or feel. The employee is occasionally required to lift objects up to 100 pounds. The noise level for this job is generally moderate, but in some cases might be very loud requiring the use of hearing protection. This position involves observation of processes in lighting of various intensities and shades. This position requires the ability to see objects in various colors (such as wiring and chemical compounds and fumes). The inspector must also be able to observe multiple operations with a wide range of vision from very close to great distances. The inspector must have good peripheral vision and the ability to judge distances.

WORK ENVIRONMENT

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. While performing the duties of this job, the employee will occasionally be exposed to wet or humid conditions, work near moving mechanical parts, work in high precarious places, fumes or airborne particles, toxic or caustic chemicals, outdoor weather conditions, extreme cold, extreme heat, risk of electrical shock, work with explosives, risk of radiation, and vibration.

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