



Job Description

Job Title: Firefighter

Department: Public Safety Department

Reports To: Fire Chief or his Command Staff

SUMMARY: This is skilled firefighting work in combating, extinguishing and preventing fires: in answering emergency calls, and in operation and maintenance of fire department equipment, apparatus and quarters. Work involves training for and participating in duties of protecting life and property by firefighting and rescue activities, usually under close supervision. Employees of this class are required to learn and participate in the operation of apparatus and the performance of hazardous tasks under such handicaps as smoke and cramped surrounding. Although firefighting and rescue work are the most difficult and responsible areas of activity, the major portion of time is spent in routine duties in the care and maintenance of fire department property and equipment, drilling and studying methods, techniques and organization. Specific orders and directions are given by the Fire Chief, but the work requires initiative and a thorough individual understanding of firefighting methods.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: The following are not to be construed as an exclusive or all-inclusive listing of skills and abilities required to perform the job. Management may delegate other responsibilities as required.

- Responds to fire alarms, operates pumps and auxiliary equipment: lays and connects hose; holds nozzle, directs fog or water streams; raises and climbs ladders; uses chemical extinguishers, bars, hooks, lines and other equipment.
- Respond to a variety of rescue calls to include water rescue, boat rescue, high angle rescue and confined space rescue.
- Use complex tools required to remove victims from entrapment
- Ventilates burning buildings by opening windows and skylights or by chopping holes in roofs and floors: remove persons from danger, administers first aid to injured persons; performs salvage operations by placing salvage covers, sweeping water and removing debris.
- Participates in fire drills and attend classes in firefighting and first aid.
- Performs general maintenance work in the upkeep of fire department property;
- Firefighters are subject to special service details for public relations and community improvement as directed.
- Subject to special detail as apparatus driver, acting officer, engineer, and inspector or per department needs.
- Perform other duties as directed by rules, regulations or an officer.

**The City reserves the right to revise or change job duties as the need arises. This job description does not constitute a written or implied contract of employment.

SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES: None

DAYS AND HOURS WORKED AND ESTIMATED OVERTIME: subject to contract

MINIMUM TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED TO PERFORM ESSENTIAL JOB

FUNCTIONS: Attends training courses; reads and studies assigned material related to firefighting and prevention. Firefighters shall possess and maintain minimum certifications required by the Chief. Must meet requirements of State Fire Minimum Standards as authorized in F.S. 633-34, 35. Be certified by the State of Florida as Firefighter II. Possess certification by the State of Florida as an EMT through Paramedic. Must meet minimum physical fitness requirements per NFPA Standards for firefighters. Must hold a valid Florida driver's license and as a possible condition of employment, based on City vehicle insurance requirements, employee must maintain no driving violations on or off the job.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS OR STANDARDS REQUIRED TO PERFORM ESSENTIAL JOB

FUNCTIONS QUALIFICATIONS: To perform this work successfully an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill, and/or ability required. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

- Using and moving equipment such as fans, rescue gear, axes, pike poles, K-12 saw, hand tools and hose lines, and power tools wearing full turn out gear and sometimes in confined areas
- breaking through a roof while on a ladder or a pitched roof using axes, chain saws, hand saws
- moving victims from a damaged automobile or collapsed buildings
- working over head for extended periods of time during ventilation, salvage and overhaul
- frequent use of power tools in awkward positions
- use of hand and power tools held in front of the body for extended periods
- repeated exit and entry from fire site in Winter, resulting a large fluctuations in body temperature
- There is an increase carrying of equipment when access to the fire site is difficult (fences, gates, overhead wires)
- Darkness and smoke decrease visibility
- climbing several flights of stairs carrying equipment
- Watercraft search and rescue operations and any other activity that requires the use of watercraft
- Enters any body of water to perform rescue or recovery, to include ponds and swimming pools

HAZARDS: Exposes to fall hazards from climbing ladders or stairs; exposed to burn and smoke/gas inhalation hazards from working around fires and/or combustible materials; exposed to electrical shock hazards, especially if working around electrical lines; exposed to fast moving traffic at MVA scenes

COGNITIVE/PSYCHOSOCIAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Cope with and perform under chaotic and emergency situations; guide and communicate with victims who may be distressed, incoherent, English-limited, or who may be children
- Ability to maintain focus on task while integrating information from multiple, simultaneous sources such as radio communications, and communications from fellow Fire Fighters
- Recall, process and apply detailed and complex emergency response protocols and instructions
- Adapt quickly and efficiently to changing, priorities, tasks, emergencies and environmental circumstances
- Cope with heights; ability to ascend and descend ground and aerial ladders
- Fighting fire for extended time periods and conducting lengthy extrication procedures (automobile pileups, industrial fires, plane crashes).
- Be comfortable in fresh and salt water environments operating from shore or boats.

INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION: Requires the ability to communicate with people to convey or exchange professional information.

LANGUAGE ABILITY: Ability to speak effectively and clearly to converse with other employees. Must have the ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions.

REASONING ABILITY: Duties require the use of sound judgment and the ability to define problems and deal with a variety of variables in situations.

INTERPERSONAL TEMPERAMENT: Requires the ability to interact with people (i.e. staff, supervisors, general public and elected officials) beyond giving and receiving instructions. Must have the ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with other employees, volunteer firefighters and the general public.

OTHER SKILLS AND ABILITIES: Learn to use the equipment with skill and proficiency that pertain to your department’s usage. Firefighter is the entry level of suppression personnel in the department. They are subordinate to other positions and subject to general service. Must have the ability to learn wide variety of firefighting duties within a reasonable working test period. Some knowledge of the street system and physical layout of the city and the unincorporated areas of Niceville would be helpful but not necessarily a requirement

WORK ENVIRONMENT: Hazardous duty, confined spaces, noise, heat, fumes, chemicals, dust, and odors. Exposed to extremely toxic and hot gases, fumes and smoke; exposure to hazardous substances. Exposed to extremely high temperatures in enclosed spaces from fires; normal Florida seasonal changes and temperatures. Duties may be performed at night, or inside buildings where visibility is extremely poor due to thick smoke or electricity outage. Exposed to extremely poor ventilation conditions at fire scenes

CERTIFICATES, LICENSES, REGISTRATIONS: Possess certification by the State of Florida as an EMT through Paramedic. Must hold a valid Florida driver’s license and as a possible condition of employment, based on city vehicle insurance requirements, maintain no driving violations on or off the job.

During the probationary period, firefighters must successfully complete a series of written and practical exams based on regular duties, handling hose, ladders and other department equipment, and certain EMS protocols.

SAFETY: Use of property safety gear, procedures and equipment. Remain aware of hazards and dangers during emergencies, learn and consistently practice safety in all operations.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT:
Continuing Education (job-related coursework at post-secondary institutions, continuing education credits/CEU)
Training (Either as participant or trainer)
Involvement in relevant professional or technical associations

Employee Acknowledgement

Date

JOB DEMANDS ANALYSIS

Job Title: FIREFIGHTER **Supervisor:** _____

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| Positional Tolerances: | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--|
| | Never | Occasional 1-33% | Frequent 34-66% | Constant 67-100% | Comments |
| Sitting | | xxx | | | Riding truck. Inputting reports into database |
| Standing | | | xxx | | Raising ladders, operating hose lines, clearing debris, inspecting equipment |
| Walking | | | xxx | | Normal daily operations |
| Stair Climbing | | xxx | | | Climbing stairs in a building |
| Ladder Climbing | | xxx | | | Deploying and climbing ladders |
| Repetitive Bending | | xxx | | | Unwinding hoses, laying a hose, and mopping floors |
| Sustained Bending | | xxx | | | Dismantling vehicles, unpacking and repacking medical equipment and supplies |
| Overhead Reach | | xxx | | | ladders, swinging and axe or sledge hammer |
| Sustained Reach | | xxx | | | Holding charged fire hoses |
| Repetitive Reach | | xxx | | | Using pike pole or hook to pull ceiling |
| Squat | | xxx | | | Unwinding hoses, administering first aid to a victim |
| Crouch | | xxx | | | Unwinding hoses, pulling hoses, coupling and uncoupling a hose, administering first aid to a victim. |
| Crawl | | xxx | | | Crawling on floor or through wreckage |
| Kneel | | xxx | | | Unwinding hoses, pulling hoses, coupling and uncoupling a hose, administering first aid to a victim |
| Twist | | | xxx | | moving patients from awkward areas |
| Push/Pull | | xxx | | | hoses of varying lengths, ladders, debris, doors, walls and beams. Furniture, victims on or off backboards |
| Balancing | | xxx | | | Climbing ladders or stairs, suppressing fires several stories above ground, climbing/standing on a ladder, standing on top of parked equipment. Walking or operating on wet, icy, or muddy surfaces. Carrying victims |

Circle applicable PDC level of work: SED LIGHT MEDIUM HEAVY VHEAVY

Other Required Tolerances not listed above: _____

| MATERIALS HANDLING | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| | Occasional | Frequent | Constant | List Items |
| Lift | 31-100+ lbs | 1-30 lbs | | SCBA, fire extinguishers, ground ladders, dry and charged hose lines, hydraulic tools, PPV Fans |
| Carry | 31-100+ lbs | 1-30 lbs | | The heaviest amount of weight carried is <u>a victim (adult or child)</u> ; weight will vary, but an adult will generally weigh <u>a minimum of 100 lbs</u> . Fire Fighters must support the combined weight (53#) of protective gear and a self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) in addition to other weight that is carried, as warranted by conditions and tasks |
| Push | 1-50 lbs | | | Debris, doors, walls, beams, furniture, ladders, victims on backboards |
| Pull | 1-50 lbs | | | Dry and charged hoses of varying lengths, ladders, debris, doors, walls and beams. Furniture, victims on or off backboards, ropes on extension ladders |

Comments: _____

Employee Signature **Date** **Doctor/Supervisor Signature** **Date**