CITY OF LA CRESCENT

CLASS TITLE: FIREFIGHTER

DEPARTMENT: FIRE

DATE: MARCH 23, 1998

GENERAL PURPOSE

Responsible for protecting life and property from the hazards of fire by applying fire suppression methods to control and stop property damage, by saving lives through rescue from fire or other hazardous environments, and through safety inspections; and public fire safety education to prevent fires. Fire fighters respond to emergency calls to provide efficient and immediate care to the critically ill and injured. Fire fighters assist in other types of emergencies and disasters that may occur in the community. Fire fighters may also be required to perform routine maintenance on fire equipment, apparatus and facilities.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED

Works under the general guidance and direction of the Captain or officer in charge.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED

None

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Responds to fire alarms and other emergency calls, extinguishes or controls fires as a member of a team under the supervision of an officer.

Selects, drags, lifts and carries hose and nozzle depending on type of fire, and correctly applies a stream of water or chemicals onto fire.

Positions and climbs ladders to gain access to upper levels of buildings or to assist individuals from burning structures.

Creates openings in buildings for ventilation or entrance, using ax, chisel, crowbar, power saw, or other power equipment.

Protects property from water and smoke by use of positive pressure ventilation, waterproof salvage covers, smoke ejectors, and deodorants.

Administers first aid and CPR to injured persons and those overcome by fire and smoke.

Communicates with superior during fire, using portable two-way radio.

Wears appropriate protective clothing and equipment to include self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) depending on potential hazard exposure.

Operates radio and other communication equipment.

Conducts fire prevention inspections and pre-fire planning of commercial buildings as part of a team under the supervision of an officer.

Inspects buildings for fire hazards and compliance with fire prevention ordinances.

Issues inspection forms to building owners/occupants listing fire code violations to be corrected.

Participates in pre-fire planning of target hazards within the jurisdiction.

Maintains fire apparatus and equipment as part of a team under the supervision of an officer.

Performs assigned duties in maintaining apparatus, quarters, buildings, equipment, grounds and hydrants.

Conducts annual hose testing in accordance with NFPA Standard 1962.

Attends regular and assigned training sessions to maintain and upgrade firefighting skills.

Actively participates in drills, demonstrations and courses in hydraulics, pump operation and maintenance, and firefighting techniques.

Performs as driver/operator of fire apparatus under supervision of a fire officer.

Drives and operates firefighting vehicles and equipment.

Maintains vehicle and equipment in safe operational condition according to manufacture=s instructions.

Responds to emergency medical calls to provide efficient and immediate care to the critically ill and injured at the U.S. Department of Transportation First Responder Level under the supervision of a fire officer.

When victims need extrication from entrapment, the fire fighter assesses the extent of injury and gives emergency care and protection to the entrapped patient and uses the prescribed techniques and appliances for removing the victim safely.

Determines the nature and extent of illness and injury and establishes priority for required emergency care.

Carries out duties in conformance with federal, state, county and city laws and ordinances.

PERIPHERAL DUTIES

Participates in community relations, fire prevention, education and inspection programs.

Performs other duties as assigned or apparent.

DESIRED MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Education and Experience:

A. High school diploma or GED equivalent.
B. No specific firefighting experience required.

Necessary Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

A. Must be able to multiply, divide, use fractions and read graphs.
B. Must be capable of reading fire protection textbooks, write reports with proper grammar and speak correctly in public.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

A. Must be eighteen (18) years of age or older at time of hire.
B. Must possess, or be able to obtain by time of hire, a valid State driver=s license without record of suspension or revocation in any state.
C. No felony convictions or disqualifying criminal histories within the past seven years.
D. U.S. citizen.
E. Must be able to read and write the English language.
F. Must be of good moral character and of temperate and industrious habits.
G. Ability to meet departmental physical standards.

TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT USED

Emergency medical aid unit, fire apparatus, fire pumps, hoses, and other standard firefighting equipment, ladders, first aid equipment, radio, pager, personal computer, telephone.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is frequently required to stand; sit; walk; talk or hear; use hands to finger, handle, or operate objects, tools, or controls; and reach with hands and arms.

Must be able to discriminate among similar sounds in environments with a great deal of background noise.

Must be able to walk or crawl while carrying or lifting.

Must be able to ascend and descend stairs or ladders.

Must be able to balance and steady oneself and keep from falling.

Must be capable of applying a leg lock with either leg upon a ground ladder to provide a safe anchor when operating hose lines or performing rescue work.

The employee must frequently lift and/or move up to 10 pounds and occasionally lift and/or move up to 100 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus.

WORK ENVIRONMENT

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Work is performed in both inside, where there may be protection from weather conditions, and outside, in all weather conditions, including temperature extremes, during day and night shifts. Work is often performed in emergency and stressful situations. Individual is exposed to hearing alarms and hazards associated with fighting fires and rendering emergency medial assistance, including smoke, noxious odors, fumes, chemicals, liquid chemicals, solvents and oils.

The employee occasionally works near moving mechanical parts and in high, precarious places and is occasionally exposed to wet and/or humid conditions, fumes or airborne particles, toxic or caustic chemicals, risk of electrical shock, and vibration.

The noise level in the work environment is usually quiet in office settings, and loud at an emergency scene.

SELECTION GUIDELINES

Formal application; review of education and experience; appropriate testing and interviews; oral interview; background check; physical agility; drug screening; final selection and pre-employment medical examination. NOTE: Appointees will be subject to completion of a standard probationary period.

The examples of duties are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related or a logical assignment to the position.

The job description does not constitute an employment agreement between the employer and employee and is subject to change by the employer as the needs of the employer and requirements of the job change.