



Fire Battalion Chief

Summary

Plan, assign, and direct both emergency and non-emergency activities for his/her shift; command emergency response scenes; plan, organize, and direct the activities and programs of a division/shift within the Fire Department; provide administration assistance for overall department operations.

Class Characteristics

General direction is provided by the Fire Chief or designee; responsibilities include the direct and indirect supervision of management, professional, technical, and support services positions.

Essential Duties, Skills, and Demands of the Position

The duties, skills, and 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 a disability to perform the essential duties, skills, and demands.

Duties:

Plan, organize, coordinate, administer, direct, and evaluate the work of staff in a division/shift.

Supervise multi-company response to emergency fire, medical aid, hazardous material, rescue, and other situations and direct stations responding to the emergency; relieve subordinate officers of command upon arrival and assess emergency situation requesting additional companies as appropriate.

Direct and coordinate the location and work of incoming companies; brief Fire Chief on the situation, explain strategy and tactics being employed; confer on and coordinate station operations and personnel issues with Fire Chief and Fire Captains; maintain command of emergency operations until relieved by Fire Chief.

Plan and supervise a specialized area of the department such as training or maintenance and upkeep of equipment and apparatus; participate in fire prevention activities; monitor changes in equipment and methods and recommend the incorporation into department activities.

Develop specific proposals for action on current and future City needs; conduct analytical and operational studies and prepare recommendations and findings; evaluate public complaints pertaining to activities or individuals in the department; may direct the investigation within the department.

Assist in the selection of staff; appraise employee performance and counsel employees regarding work performance and procedures.

Interpret City regulations, policies, and procedures to staff; maintain records using a computer and prepare periodic, special, and technical reports relating to assigned area of responsibility.

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May be called upon to give staff reports to City Council or management staff; may serve as the acting Fire Chief as required; act as Fire Department liaison in various city, county, and state committees; perform a variety of public relations and public speaking duties.

Perform related duties as assigned.

Skills/Abilities:

Make appropriate plans and tactical decisions in multi-company response situations.

Plan, assign, direct, review, and evaluate the work of others.

Select, train and motivate assigned staff.

Develop and implement goals, objectives, policies, procedures, work standards, and supervisory controls.

Assess emergency incidents and develop, implement, and direct appropriate response strategies.

Develop and conduct classroom and practical training courses and programs.

Render emergency medical care at the basic life support level.

Maintain accurate records and prepare clear and concise reports and other written materials using a computer.

Operate a variety of tools, equipment, and apparatus used in fire, medical, and other emergency response.

Operate office equipment including computers and supporting word processing, spreadsheet, and database applications.

Communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.

Establish and maintain effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of the work.

Physical Demands and Work Environment:

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to sit, stand, walk, use hands to finger, handle, or feel, and talk or hear. The employee frequently is required to reach with hands and arms; climb or balance; stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl; and taste or smell. The employee must frequently lift and/or move weight up to 50 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and ability to adjust focus. While performing the duties of this job, the employee is frequently exposed to outside weather conditions. The employee is occasionally exposed to fumes or airborne particles. The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate.

Qualifications

Knowledge of:

Supervisory principles and practices, including work organization and delegation, employee supervision, training, and evaluation.

Principles, techniques, materials, equipment, strategy, and tactics used in fire suppression, investigation, prevention, and incident command.

Principles and practices of providing emergency medical response.

Hazardous material and chemical spill response.

Applicable federal and state laws, codes, ordinances, and regulations.

Safety practices and precautions pertaining to the work.

Geographical layout of the City and location of various fire suppression utilities.

Basic computer report production techniques.

Budget and financial planning.

Strategic planning.

Office procedures, methods, and equipment including computers and applicable software applications such as word processing, spreadsheets, and databases.

Education and Experience

Any combination equivalent to the education and experience likely to provide the required knowledge and abilities would be qualifying. A typical way to gain such knowledge and abilities would be:

Education:

Completion of an Associate's degree from an accredited college with major course work in health care, fire science, fire administration, public administration, business administration, or a related field. A Bachelor's degree is preferred.

Coursework, training, and or certificates from the California Specialized Training Institute (CSTI), California State Fire Marshal (CSFM) Training curriculum or other accredited training consortium in subjects related to fire command, hazardous materials, supervision, fire prevention, fire investigation, emergency medical response, emergency management, and/or other general management skills is desirable.

Experience:

Three years experience equivalent to the rank of Fire Captain and has served in the capacity of Acting Fire Battalion Chief

Certifications/Licenses:

Possession of a CSFM Fire Officer or Company Officer certificate or out of state equivalent.

A CSFM Chief Officer or Chief Fire Officer certificate is required prior to the completion of the probationary period as a condition of continued employment.

Possession of a valid Class C driver's license.

Current certification as an Emergency Medical Technician, either through the National Registry EMT or State of California. Must maintain local certification requirements.

Special Requirement:

Must pass and maintain physical requirements as specified by the City and be able to wear self-

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contained breathing apparatus.

Revised: 10/20/14 - Resolution 2014-164 N.C.S.

Revised: 01/05/09 - Resolution 2009-002 N.C.S.

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Revised: 05/02/22 – Resolution 2022-070 N.C.S.

Established: 03/90 - Resolution 1990-147 N.C.S.

Department: Fire

FLSA Status: Exempt