

DEPUTY CHIEF FIRE INVESTIGATOR

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This position is responsible for assisting the Chief Fire Investigator in supervising and coordinating the efforts of the Fire Investigators assigned to the Ulster County Arson Task Force. The Deputy Chief Fire Investigators respond to fires and supervise the investigations in an assigned area in Ulster County when called by the Ulster County Department of Emergency Services. Incumbents work in cooperation with the fire departments, police departments and witnesses at the fire scene. The work is performed under the general supervision of the Chief Fire Investigator. Direct supervision is exercised over the work of Fire Investigators. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: The typical work activities listed below, while providing representative examples of the variety of work assignments in the title, do not describe any individual position. Incumbents in this title may perform some or all of the following, as well as other related activities not described.

Supervises the efforts of Fire Investigators in determining the cause of fires;

Responds to fires in a geographic area to which they are assigned in Ulster County;

Makes observations regarding the fire scene upon arrival;

Interviews fire personnel and witnesses at fire scene to determine what occurred;

Cooperates with Police Departments, and District Attorney's Office Investigators at fire scene;

Makes determination as to whether the cause of the fire was accidental, incendiary or undetermined;

Writes and files report with the Deputy Director of Emergency Services/Fire Coordinator;

May sift through fire debris and take samples to determine the cause of fire;

May attend trainings on arson detection and origin and causes of fires;

May assist in maintaining Arson Task Force equipment, clothing and vehicles for the fire investigation unit.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS: Thorough knowledge of fire investigation practices and techniques; good knowledge of the theory of the causes and origins of fires; good knowledge of the principals and practices of firefighting; ability to effectively supervise the work of others; ability to write clear and concise reports; ability to learn effective interviewing procedures and practices; ability to communicate effectively with others; good powers of observation and perception; good judgement; initiative and honesty; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Must be employed as a Fire Investigator with the Ulster County Arson Task Force and meet the following qualifications: **Either:**

- A. Four (4) years of full-time, paid work experience as a firefighter or in a related profession involving the investigation of fires. This work experience must have included or have been supplemented by one (1) year of verifiable supervisory experience in a firefighting setting; **OR**
- B. Four (4) years of full-time, or its part-time equivalent, paid work experience as a Police Officer. This work experience must have included or have been supplemented by one (1) year of verifiable supervisory experience in a firefighting setting; **OR**
- C. Six (6) years of verifiable volunteer work experience as a firefighter or in a related profession involving the investigation of fires. This work experience must have included or have been supplemented by one (1) year of verifiable supervisory experience in a firefighting setting; **OR**
- D. An equivalent combination of the training and experience as indicated in A, B and C above.

Special Requirements:

- At the time of appointment and throughout employment in this title, candidates must possess a valid New York State Fire Investigator Certification.
- At the time of appointment and throughout employment in this title, candidates must possess a valid New York State Driver's License.
- Candidates must be at least eighteen (18) years of age at time of appointment.

ULSTER COUNTY
2155 DEP CH FIR
Classification: Competitive
2156 DP CH FI P
Classification: Non-Competitive
NU

Adopted: July 24, 2007
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