

DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL

KIND OF WORK

Professional fire safety work including prevention, inspection, arson investigation, education, and review and interpretation of applicable codes, statutes, rules and plans.

NATURE AND PURPOSE

Under limited supervision promotes, interprets, and enforces regulations, rules, and standards relating to fire and life safety throughout Minnesota to ensure protection for citizens from fire and fire-related causes; performs related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK (A position may not include all the work examples given, nor does the list include all that may be assigned.)

Individual positions may have responsibilities specifically related to inspection; arson investigation; or interpretation/review of codes, statutes, rules, and plans.

Research inspection histories of establishments to determine the need for new inspections and/or education through contact with related inspection agencies and/or review of available inspection records.

Inspect a variety of public and private buildings including schools, hospitals, hotels, and daycare facilities to determine compliance with fire and life safety rules, regulations, and standards through on-site walk-throughs, discussions with building owners/custodians, and inspection of building plans and records.

Write and issue results of inspections as a matter of record so that information is available for follow-up inspections by completing inspection reports and preparing correction orders.

Initiate appropriate actions including legal action when facilities do not comply with correction orders by consulting with state and local authorities, including attorneys and licensing agencies.

Assist facility owners/operators in meeting required regulations to ensure maximum compliance by presenting a variety of available options, such as code equivalencies, minor construction, or purchase of appropriate equipment.

Ensure substantial compliance with all fire safety codes and requirements in regard to new construction and/or remodeling through consultation with building owners/administrators, engineers, architects, and contractors so that all such activities conform to these codes.

Promote fire safety and educate the public, fire service agency personnel, and division staff in the areas of fire prevention and investigation through public appearances and speeches, presentation of formal training classes, and development of written material.

Respond to requests from local fire services or local law enforcement agencies to determine origins, causes, and circumstances of fires and explosions through examination of the fire scene, interviews with witnesses or other persons with knowledge of the event, analysis of evidence, and procurement of search warrants.

Conduct follow-up investigations in regard to suspected criminal activity regarding a fire incident to assist law enforcement agencies in determining the need for prosecution by conducting background checks, witnessing autopsy procedures, cultivating informants, assisting in surveillance activities, reviewing lab reports of physical evidence, and consulting with prosecuting attorneys.

Promote cooperation between local fire services and State Fire Marshal's Office to enhance working relationships through service on committees and attendance at and participation in regional meetings and conferences.

Interpret the intent of fire codes, regulations, rules and standards to provide guidance in their application through research, participation on Code Advisory Boards and Committees, and development of written determinations in specific areas.

Review flammable liquid and liquid propane gas installation plans to assure compliance with state fire code, state statutes, and pollution control rules by developing and preparing reports and statistics, composing approval letters, inspecting installations, and maintaining records.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED (Those asterisked are required at hire and would typically be brought to the job by the applicant.)

Knowledge of:

*Uniform Fire Code, Uniform Building Code, National Fire Protection Association Standards and applicable statutes.

*Fire protection devices and their application.

*Procedures used to conduct formal inspections.

Building construction and design.

Fire engineering principles.

Physics and chemistry as they relate to fire and hazardous material.

Fire-related criminal statutes and court interpretations.

Rules of evidence as they pertain to criminal cases.

Division policy and procedures and those of related agencies.

Skill in:

*Verbal communication sufficient to exchange information with individuals having diverse types of experience and education.

Written communication sufficient to prepare comprehensive technical or investigative reports.

Gathering and analyzing evidence sufficient to support a criminal prosecution.

Ability to:

*Make independent judgments by applying knowledge of applicable regulations and policies to specific situations.

*Prepare and present information to groups.

*Provide technical consultation to attorneys, engineers, architects, and law enforcement officials.

*Interview witnesses, informants, and criminal suspects.

Construct a case for possible court action and pursue it to successful conclusion.

Prepare lesson plans for training programs.

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T.C.:
Former Title(s):