FIREFIGHTER II
FIRE DEPARTMENT
OPERATIONS DIVISION

GENERAL DUTIES: Under general direction of the Fire Captain, is responsible for the operation and maintenance of fire apparatus equipment, station equipment and the Fire station facility. Respond to fires, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), hazardous materials incidents, rescues, and other requests for emergency service.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

Personal Appearance - Is appropriate for the work environment and meets expectations for the proper image of the City, as per department policy.

Attendance - Follows department/City policy in regards to punctuality and attendance.

Compliance with Work Instructions - Follows all work instructions given and completes all assigned duties. Follows the policies, rules, and regulations of the City and department.

Safety - Follows the Safety and Health Handbook, as well as other safety related standards, and avoids unnecessary risk to oneself, co-workers, citizens, and property.

Internal Relations - Conducts work in a manner which supports the overall team effort, and which avoids disruptions of one's work and the work of others. Treats all City employees with respect. Takes responsibility to resolve differences. Finds solutions to problems. Respects racial, religious, ethnic, age and sexual differences of others, and avoids derogatory statements regarding these differences.

Customer Service - Conducts work that fosters public support for the City, that will lead to fewer complaints and claims against the City. Treats customers with respect. Follows the same rules that one expects the customer to follow. Respects racial, religious, ethnic, age and sexual differences of others, and avoids derogatory statements regarding these differences.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK:

1. Respond to fires, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), hazardous material incidents, rescues, and other requests for emergency service.

2. Operate all Fire department apparatus and equipment and assist with mitigating emergency and non-emergency incidents.

3. Test and maintain fire apparatus, equipment and facilities.

4. Is familiar with city streets and response routes.

5. Participate in related training programs.

6. Conduct fire safety inspections and public education presentations as necessary.

7. Administer staff assignments and special projects.

8. Initiate service requisitions for apparatus, equipment and facility maintenance.

9. Subject to recall on a scheduled and/or emergency basis.

10. As assigned, assume the duties and responsibilities of a Fire Engineer.

11. Duties may include the operation of a vehicle designed and operated for transportation of ill and injured persons, equipped and staffed to provide first aid or life support measures to be applied during transport.

12. Perform related work as required.

REQUIREMENTS, SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES:

SKILLS:

1. Techniques required to safely and effectively operate all department apparatus and equipment.

2. Supervision of other employees on a relief basis.

3. Expressing ideas effectively, orally and in writing.

KNOWLEDGE: Knowledge of:

1. Principles and practices of modern methods and techniques of fire suppression, fire prevention, rescue and of the Incident Command System (ICS).

2. Principles of Basic Life Support, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Emergency Medical Technician-Defibrillator (EMT-D) and Enhanced EMT (E-EMT).

3. Principles of hydraulics and fire pump design.

4. City and departmental rules, policies, and procedures.

5. Customer service techniques.

6. Operation of Department computer system, including the effective use of the City's electronic mail system, spreadsheet software, and word-processing software.

7. Basic arithmetic, correct English usage, grammar, spelling and punctuation.

ABILITIES: Ability to:

1. Respond to and evaluate emergency situations when not directly supervised.

2. Learn a wide variety of firefighter duties and methods and to use department apparatus and equipment.

3. Safely and effectively, drive and/or operate fire apparatus and equipment.

4. Respond apparatus to the incident location in the most direct and expeditious way.

5. Evaluate equipment performance and recommend for service or repair.

6. Establish and maintain effective working relationships with supervisors, co-workers, other departments, other agencies, business and community groups and the general public.

7. Perform mathematical and hydraulic computations.

8. Communicate, understand and follow oral and written instructions.

9. Think clearly and act decisively under stressful conditions.

10. Maintain good physical condition and pass the bi-annual physical fitness test as specified by the Memorandum of Understanding.

MACHINES/TOOLS/EQUIPMENT UTILIZED:

Typical office and field environments include the following:

1. Computer, keyboard and monitor
2. Laserjet or ink jet printer
3. Telephone or cell phone
4. Pager
5. Copier
6. Calculator
7. 10-key adding machine
8. Facsimile machine
9. Typewriter
10. Two-way radio
11. Fire apparatus, including facemask and portable radio
12. Paper shredder or cutter
13. Specialized computer software
14. Car radio and portable radio
15. Binoculars
16. Gas detector
17. Heat detector
18. Fuel pumps

19. Eye, ear, hand and head protection equipment
20. Flashlight
21. Uniforms and safety equipment
22. Cameras/tape recorders/video cameras
23. Keys to a variety of City locks
24. Respirator
25. Trauma medical bag equipped with standard equipment
26. Stokes litter
27. Hose Tester
28. Rescue equipment
29. Oxygen equipment
30. Diagnostic equipment
31. Geiger counter
32. Foam eductor
33. Backboard and straps
34. Sager splint
35. Defibrillator
36. Suction unit
37. Rescue rope
38. Rescue air bags
39. Self contained breathing apparatus
40. Fire nozzles
41. Run book
42. Fire extinguishers
43. Electrical cord and adaptors
44. Highway flares
45. Glass cutter
46. Fire hydrants
47. Bolt cutter
48. Cribbing
49. Hydrant wrench
50. Plug and dike
51. Axe (various types)
52. Crowbar
53. Halligan bar and rescue tools
54. Sledge hammer
55. Pike pole
56. Push broom
57. Shovel
58. Post indicator valve
59. Wildland fire apparatus
60. Structural fire apparatus
61. Positive pressure ventilator
62. Aerial fire apparatus
63. Reciprocating saw
64. Power Generators
65. Hydraulic extrication tool

66. Water vacuum
67. Washing machine and dryer
68. Smoke ejector
69. Chainsaw
70. Other related emergency and firefighting equipment

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

The work of all firefighters may be dangerous. Firefighters may go from a resting pulse position, to a physically demanding and dangerous situation, and then return to a resting position. The job may be very fast paced and may require quick changes within a short period of time.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS:

1. Standing: Firefighters have to stand while at the scene of an accident or when communicating with other safety personnel or citizens. Firefighters stand when waiting for assignments, putting on gear, accessing ladders, servicing equipment, attending training, etc.

2. Walking: Firefighters walk while on the incident ground to complete various tasks. Firefighters walk when conducting fire inspections, completing daily tasks, cleaning equipment and tools, maintaining the Fire station facilities, attending training, etc.

3. Sitting: Firefighters have to sit when performing various administrative tasks such as typing, computer operations, attending training and meetings, etc. Firefighters are seated on fire apparatus when responding to emergencies or may remain seated for extended periods of time when traveling out of town to Southern or Northern California.

4. Stooping/Bending: Firefighters have to stoop or bend during rescue situations, when interviewing or working on patients, picking up tools and equipment, attending training, etc.

5. Lifting: Firefighters have to lift various objects or materials, sometimes in excess of 90 pounds. Firefighters lift emergency equipment, fire hoses, positive pressure ventilators, hand tools, ladders, lighting equipment, patients, victims, etc. Firefighters may lift victims out of cars or when assisting with their removal from a burning building, or when attending training. They may also lift heavy material during salvage operations.

6. Carrying: Firefighters have to carry various objects and materials, sometimes in excess of 90 pounds. Firefighters lift emergency equipment fire hoses, positive pressure ventilators, hand tools, ladders, lighting equipment, etc. Firefighters may carry victims for long distances, such as out of burning buildings or when attending training. They may also carry heavy materials in salvage operations.

7. Pushing/Pulling: Firefighters have to pull hoses or pull ceilings down during overhaul operations. They may push and pull heavy objects while extinguishing and overhauling a fire or during training exercises.

8. Balancing: Firefighters have to balance while on ladders, steep rooftops, hillsides, etc.

During training exercises, Firefighters are required to demonstrate their ability to safely access fire apparatus such as ladders or heavy equipment.

9. Climbing: Firefighters have to climb ladders, hills, fences, stairs, rooftops, etc. Firefighters may climb over all types of debris from burning buildings.

10. Twisting/Turning: Firefighters twist and turn when fighting fires, working with fire hoses, searching buildings, moving patients, cleaning equipment, attending training, etc.

11. Kneeling: Firefighters kneel when working with patients or while holding C-spine on injured patients, when fighting fires, attending training, cleaning equipment, etc.

12. Reaching: Firefighters reach when fighting fires, attending training, cleaning equipment, removing debris, moving patients, pulling down ceilings, etc.

13. Crawling: Firefighters may crawl when entering or exiting a burning building, cleaning fire apparatus and heavy equipment, maintaining the Fire stations, etc.

14. Running: Firefighters may run during the course of a firefighting incident or during training. Firefighters are required to run 1.5 miles when completing the physical fitness evaluation.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Firefighters are exposed to extreme physical demands during emergency situations with exposure to extreme danger, at times. The time periods that the firefighter has to perform physically may be very long in duration (sometimes hours at a time). The firefighter must be able to perform work under various environmental conditions, which often produces major physical strain. The firefighter must have a combination of strength, dexterity, and endurance to properly function under these various situations.

SENSORY DEMANDS:

1. Seeing: Firefighters use vision to assess patients, incident conditions, such as a fire back draft or eminent building collapse, and dangerous situations such as downed power lines. Firefighters need to see while conducting inspections or performing station maintenance.

2. Talking/Hearing: Firefighters must have the ability to talk and hear to effectively communicate in both emergency and non-emergency situations. They need to hear to detect a possible trapped victim. They need to hear while assessing a patient for lung sounds or determining a pulse or blood pressure.

3. Touching/Feeling: Firefighters must touch and feel when testing a patient's pulse rate. Firefighters must also be able to feel the contour of a building when conducting a search or rescue. They need the ability to feel for heat when conducting suppression activities in a non-visible environment. They also must have the ability to detect the presence of a body or foreign objects or obstacles.

4. Smelling: Firefighters must smell to detect odors on patients such as alcohol or emesis. Firefighters must also be able to detect smoke, specific gases and other odors that could indicate a harmful or dangerous environment.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Firefighters must have keen senses to do their job efficiently and effectively. A Firefighter's sense is the means by which he/she obtains information. A firefighter must have the ability to obtain information so that he/she can properly act on a specific situation. Often there are times when the sense of sight is not available. During these types of hazardous situations, the firefighter must rely on all other senses to obtain necessary information to act in a safe and effective manner. An example would be a firefighter who has to couple hose together in the dark; the firefighter has no visual sense, but does have the sense of touch.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS:

1. Temperature/Weather: Firefighters are exposed to all temperature variations. While in full protective clothing, a firefighter may have to perform in very hot (300+ degrees). While wet, a firefighter may have to perform in very cold conditions (below 32 degrees). Firefighters have to perform under many conditions such as in a storm with rain, sleet, hail or lightning; during a flood, in the dark, under direct sunlight, etc.

2. Noise: Firefighters are exposed to a wide variety of noises such as helicopters, fire engines, chainsaws, air chisels, sirens, explosions, etc. The decibel level that firefighters are exposed to may exceed 108 decibels, such as when working near a running helicopter.

3. Hazards:

    a. Burns: Burns may occur from a fire type incident as the result of a thermal, steam, direct flame, or chemical contact.

    b. Mechanical: Mechanical injuries may occur from a firefighter being struck by a falling object or being hit by a moving vehicle. A combative patient may cause a mechanical injury. In addition, the firefighter may fall on or against various objects during routine firefighting duties or training.

    c. Electrical: Electrical injuries may occur from a firefighter coming in contact with an exposed electrical line during a structure fire. Accidental contact with a downed power line may also cause an electrical injury.

    d. Chemical: A chemical injury may occur from a firefighter coming in contact with a hazardous chemical either through inhalation, injection, absorption, or ingestion.

    e. Biological: A firefighter runs the risk of coming in contact with bloodborne pathogens containing harmful infectious diseases such as AIDS, hepatitis A, B, and C, tuberculosis, meningitis, etc.

f. Respiratory: Respiratory hazards may occur when a firefighter accidentally inhales a substance such as smoke that contains a carcinogenic, mutagenic, toxin or other harmful substance.

g. Mental Stress: Mental stress is a hazard to the firefighter because of the grim situations that a firefighter often encounters. There is also a mental stress of having to be in the constant state of readiness while on duty.

h. Physical Stress: The firefighter's body is subjected to a great deal of physical stress, sometimes for a long period of time. Stress may result from having to remove victims, manage hose lines, move heavy and/or unsafe objects, etc.

i. Radiological: Firefighters may be faced with radiological hazards when responding to a vehicle accident where radiological substances are being transported.

j. Sleep deprivation: Firefighter's sleep often gets interrupted due to response to emergency incidents. Firefighters may work over a 24 hour period without sleep.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Firefighters are exposed to many dangerous environmental conditions. Through extensive training and past experiences, the firefighter will be able to determine the presence of dangerous environmental conditions. A firefighter acts in a manner that provides for his/her safety and the safety of others.

ATMOSPHERIC CONDITIONS:

1. Fire: Firefighters are exposed to fire when they are involved in a structure fire, vehicle fire, vegetation fire, or other emergency situations.

2. Smoke: Firefighters are exposed to smoke when they are involved in a structure fire, vehicle fire, vegetation fire, or other emergency situations.

3. Gases: Firefighters are exposed to many gases both hazardous and non-hazardous in nature. An example would be when a firefighter has to mitigate a flammable gas leak or when he/she has to perform a rescue on a patient who is in a vehicle with gasoline dripping from the vehicle's gasoline tank.

4. Dust: Firefighters are exposed to dust when at the scene of a fire and when in the mop-up stage of a fire or when fighting a vegetation fire.

5. Biological: Firefighters may be exposed to various biological atmospheres. An example is when the firefighter is in enclosed quarters with a patient who has tuberculosis and is coughing productively.

6. Low Oxygen levels: Firefighters may be exposed to low oxygen levels in situations such as confined space or a CO_2 enriched environment.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Firefighters are often exposed to dangerous atmospheric conditions. Through extensive training and past experiences, the firefighter will be able to determine the presence of a dangerous atmospheric situation. The firefighter may then act in a manner that provides for his/her safety and the safety of others.

FLOOR SURFACES:

Firefighters work on a variety of surfaces, both safe and unsafe. These surfaces may include but are not limited to: cement, asphalt, dirt, wood, water, mud, tile, carpet, metal grate, linoleum, gravel, etc.

The surfaces may be uneven, steep and/or slippery such as an icy rooftop. Floor conditions may be undetectable especially when a floor has been exposed to fire. Firefighters often work on surfaces with poor visibility and in areas that they are unfamiliar with such as fighting a vegetation fire on the side of a hill at night. The floor surfaces may contain biological or chemical hazards such as blood or hazardous chemicals.

REQUIREMENTS, TRAINING, EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Education equivalent to graduation from high school, plus 60 college semester units in a related field.

2. Be at least 18 years of age.

3. Possess Firefighter I California State certification.

4. Possess Emergency Medical Technician recognized by the State of California.

5. Must successfully complete in-house recruit academy that includes, but is not limited to, physical conditioning and skills-performance testing elements.

6. Obtain and maintain EMT-D certification within the first 6 months of employment.

7. Willingness to continue education and training by taking additional courses, attending seminars and workshops, supplemented by individual study.

8. Possess and maintain a valid California Driver License and a safe driving record necessary to operate assigned vehicle(s). Obtain and maintain a valid California Class B Driver License (restricted firefighter) within 18 months from the date of hire.

9. Be able to meet the current medical standards for a Firefighter, and be free from any physical condition, which might adversely affect the ability to perform the duties of a City of Gilroy Firefighter.

10. Pass a post-offer psychological evaluation and a medical examination, which includes a

drug test.

11. Pass an extensive background investigation, which includes a Department of Justice criminal record check for employment.

12. Participate in and pass the City's bi-annual physical fitness program.

13. Meet the residency requirement of residing within ninety (90) minutes travel time from any fire station, as outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding.

14. Employees hired after January 1, 1987, shall comply with their existing physical condition and non-smoking contracts. All bargaining unit employees hired after January 1, 2004 shall sign a physical condition and tobacco use contract restricting their use of all types of tobacco (Article VII, Section V Local 2805 MOU).

15. Prefer bilingual (English/Spanish).