

FIRE CAPTAIN

NATURE OF WORK

This is administrative, supervisory and skilled firefighting work directing the activities of a fire company engaged in firefighting, hazardous materials response, and medical emergency activities; and in providing fire inspection and public education programs.

Work involves responsibility for the direct command of a fire company (which may include an ambulance crew) including conducting company training drills and training sessions; inspecting all fire and EMS equipment to ensure readiness for all types of emergencies; supervising the maintenance of fire and EMS equipment and fire station; and maintaining personnel, equipment, and station records. At the scene of a working incident an employee in this class is responsible for directing emergency service activities until relieved of command by a superior officer. Work also includes gathering and analyzing information for the preparation of reports; recommending and assisting in the development of policies, procedures, and forms to improve departmental operations; interpreting rules and policies; developing fire inspection and public education and awareness programs; and assigning and evaluating the work of subordinate Firefighters, Firefighter/Paramedics and Fire Apparatus Operators. Supervision is received from a Deputy Fire Chief with work being reviewed in the form of reports submitted and overall effectiveness of company firefighting and medical emergency activities. Supervision is exercised over subordinate Firefighters, Firefighter/Paramedics and Fire Apparatus Operators at assigned station on an assigned shift.

EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Responds to emergencies with ambulance, engine, or truck company; maintains contact with 911 dispatch center via two-way radio; assists in determining quickest route to fire location as well as determining nearest operating fire hydrant; and directs and participates in emergency activities at the scene until relieved by a superior officer. Activities include laying and connecting hose, directing water streams, placing ladders, ventilating buildings, rescuing persons, administering emergency medical care, and performing salvage and clean-up operations.

Responds to a variety of medical emergency calls including heart attacks and seizures as well as home, business, and automobile accidents; directs and participates in the delivery of emergency services including determining appropriate action, directing advanced life support providers, obtaining vital signs and patient history pending arrival of a transport ambulance; and administers cardiopulmonary resuscitation and emergency medical care.

Directs and participates in training drills at assigned station concerning a variety of topic areas including tying ropes and knots, equipment usage, emergency medical techniques, salvage procedures, ladder evolutions and rescue maneuvers; and records type of training provided to each Firefighter and Firefighter/Paramedic.

Develops fire inspection, public education, and public awareness programs; makes presentations to schools, community organizations and other interested groups.

Directs and participates in the inspection of businesses within an assigned area to gain compliance with fire prevention laws and ordinances and to become familiar with the building, its contents, and the surrounding area.

Attends Fire Captain's and/or shift meetings in order to receive information concerning department procedures and programs; recommends and assists in the development of policies, procedures, and forms to improve departmental operations; and participates in simulated firefighting activities at training facilities.

Inspects all assigned equipment to ensure readiness for all types of emergencies; and supervises the cleaning and general maintenance of fire and ambulance equipment, and the fire station.

Gathers and analyzes information for the preparation of reports; updates street and hydrant maps; records all fire, medical emergency, and non-emergency runs as well as repairs to fire apparatus, equipment, and station.

Assigns and evaluates the work of subordinate Firefighters, Firefighter/Paramedics and Fire Apparatus Operators; maintains personnel records; interprets City and departmental rules and policies.

An employee in this class may be temporarily reassigned to a higher level classification as necessary.

Performs related work as required.

DESIRABLE KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES AND SKILLS

Considerable knowledge of modern firefighting and rescue principles, practices, and methods.

Considerable knowledge of the operation and maintenance of the various types of apparatus and equipment used in firefighting and rescue activities, together with the ability to supervise the effective use of such equipment and apparatus.

Considerable knowledge of fire department policies, rules, and regulations, as well as fire prevention methods.

Considerable knowledge of fire codes and inspection procedures.

Considerable knowledge of emergency medical, resuscitation, and other rescue techniques.

Considerable knowledge of the geographical layout of the City, including the location of streets, fire hydrants, and major fire hazards in an assigned area.

Considerable knowledge of the principles of hydraulics as applied to firefighting.

Knowledge of the principles and practices involved in instructing and training subordinates.

Ability to interpret rules, regulations, and policies, and to make decisions in accordance with established precedent.

Ability to gather and analyze facts, and prepare clear, concise reports.

Ability to develop and organize public education programs.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with subordinates, other employees, and the general public.

Ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.

Ability to effectively utilize computer equipment and software systems.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Graduation from an accredited vocational or technical college with an associate degree in fire science or technology, and six years of experience performing firefighting activities; or any equivalent combination of training and experience that would provide the desired knowledge, abilities, and skills. Candidates also must meet such specific physical requirements, as well as length and type of fire service requirements, as are established by the City.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Possession of a valid driver's license when a vehicle is necessary to the satisfactory performance of assigned duties.

Completion of the following Captain Certification courses: A) Fire Instructor I; B) Fire Officer I; and C) Fire Officer II, or courses that satisfy the fire and emergency services management (FESM) certificate requirements.

Possession of State of Nebraska certification as a Fire Fighter I or equivalent.

Possession of valid Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) or EMT-Paramedic license at time of appointment is necessary to the satisfactory performance of assigned duties.

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