

SNOHOMISH COUNTY JOB DESCRIPTION

FINGERPRINT TECHNICIAN

Spec No. 6066

BASIC FUNTION

Responsibilities include identifying and comparing latent fingerprint impressions from crime scenes using various methods; identifying individuals in custody at the jail through fingerprinting; processing crime scenes and evidence for latent impressions; and providing expert testimony in court regarding results of examinations.

STATEMENT OF ESSENTIAL JOB DUTIES:

1. Processes evidence items from crime scenes for latent fingerprints using various chemical processes.
2. Compares latent fingerprints from evidence and/or ten print cards to fingerprints currently on file within the Sheriff's Office or through the AFIS databases for positive identification.
3. Prepares and analyzes latent prints from crime scenes; accesses and searches AFIS database; enters data into the AFIS database and retrieves information as needed; reports findings.
4. Obtains inked prints (finger and palm) from suspects, victims and inmates.
5. Photographs and develops latent prints at crime scenes and/or in the lab.
6. Prepares documents and displays to be used in court; gives expert testimony in court; works with Detectives and Prosecuting Attorney's Office on cases as requested.
7. Prepares and presents information to various groups explaining the various aspects of the forensic science of fingerprints.
8. Develops and maintains computer data files for statistical reporting; prepares reports and documents as required.

STATEMENT OF OTHER JOB DUTIES

9. Maintains fingerprint card files for Snohomish County Jail bookings.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Two (2) years latent print comparison experience; successful completion of the FBI Basic and Advanced Fingerprinting classes which meet Washington State Patrol (WSP) minimum qualifications for use of AFIS equipment; OR any equivalent combination of training and/or experience which provides the required knowledge and abilities. Experience may be as a commissioned officer or as a civilian employee within a law enforcement agency. Must pass job related tests.

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SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

A valid Washington State Driver's License, unrestricted except as to vision, is required prior to appointment. Must be a lawful permanent resident or United States citizen; minimum 21 years of age, no maximum age. Must pass a Civil Service examination; AND pre-employment examinations including, but not limited to, a complete background investigation, fingerprinting, criminal record check, polygraph examination and a psychological evaluation.

Must be able to obtain WSP AFIS certification within six months from date of hire.

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES

Knowledge of:

- techniques and methods of locating and lifting latent impressions
- fingerprinting techniques and terminology
- photographic equipment
- fingerprint classifications systems
- computer applications and software

Ability to:

- basic crime scene processing; and AFIS data processing
- communicate effectively, both verbal and written, with people regardless of age, sex, social, cultural and ethnic backgrounds
- accurate keyboarding skills
- read, interpret and categorize data with high degree of accuracy
- maintain accurate and orderly records
- prepare work related documents
- follow complex procedures and oral/written instructions
- lifting items weighing up to 50 pounds
- proper handling, storage and usage of hazardous chemicals
- use discretion to maintain confidentiality of information
- problem solving skills
- deal with crisis and traumatic events

WORKING CONDITIONS

Work is performed in the usual office environment. Lifting, carrying or moving of objects weighing 20 pounds or more may be required. Exposure to hazardous fumes and blood-borne/airborne pathogens. Shift, holiday, and weekend work may also be required.

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Snohomish County is an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) employer.
Accommodations for individuals with disabilities are provided upon request.

[EEO policy and ADA notice](#)

Class Established: November 1988

Revised: September 1990, March 1991, September 1994, March 1997, November 2001

Revised: June 2018

EEO Category: 6 – Administrative Support

Pay Grade: 612 – Law Enforcement Support Pay Plan

Workers Comp: 5306 Non-Hazardous