

Class code: 3235  
Grade: P-19

### FINGERPRINT SPECIALIST III

#### NATURE AND VARIETY OF WORK

This is highly technical and lead/coordinative work in the examination of latent fingerprints, palm prints, and similar or related evidence pertaining to major criminal cases, performed with the assistance of a computer automated fingerprint identification system. Work of this class involves lead/coordination and assistance in planning and scheduling the work of fingerprint specialists, and assistance with coordination of the Regional Automated Fingerprint Identification System (RAFIS). Work is performed under general supervision of a Fingerprint Specialist IV or a designated supervisor. Work is performed independently and reviewed through appraisal of its contribution to the successful resolution of major criminal cases and work accomplishments.

#### EXAMPLES OF WORK

Performs the more complex assignments of fingerprint examination work.

Leads/coordinates subordinate level fingerprint specialist personnel in the performance of latent print examination work.

Evaluates latent fingerprints received to determine if they are of value prior to entry into the Regional Automated Fingerprint Identification System (RAFIS); records information into latent log book for chain of custody.

Enters latent prints of sufficient value into the RAFIS computer system by using either the re-edit or latent console.

Evaluates latent finger and palm impressions from crime scenes with ink impressions of known criminals based on either a written request or a print out of possible suspects from the automated fingerprint system.

Provides "expert" testimony in court.

Prepares photograph enlargements of fingerprints, palm prints, etc. for chart presentation in court.

Compiles incoming chemically processed materials and records them in the latent log book, using chain of custody form.

Photographs and compares fragmentary prints lift in unstable or perishable substances, such as dust, grease, oil, blood, wax and other materials.

Assists investigators in resolving unresolved cases by conducting extensive research of past and recent offenses with the same modus operandi for prints and performing file searches.

Maintains and files latent cases and assists in filing ten- finger fingerprint cards when purged from the manual and automated files as prescribed by the records retention schedule.

Conducts latent searches of the database of other area jurisdictions including Montgomery County, District of Columbia and Virginia.

Assists supervisor in training subordinate level fingerprint personnel in the techniques and methodology of latent print examination.

Assumes the duties and responsibilities of Fingerprint Specialist IV in his/her absence.

Provides training to County police personnel and other municipal police departments in the use of the R.A.F.I.S. computer system as an investigative aide.

May be required to use automated equipment in conjunction with assigned duties and responsibilities.

Willingly and cooperatively performs tasks and duties which may not be specifically listed in the class specification or position description, but which are within the general occupational category and responsibility level typically associated with the employee's class of work.

#### REQUIRED KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS AND ABILITIES

Thorough knowledge of the Henry system of fingerprint classification and related identification systems.

Thorough knowledge of the principles, practices, equipment and materials used in

detecting, lifting, identifying and preserving latent prints, including a specialized knowledge of chemicals used in latent print examination.

Thorough knowledge of the rules of evidence and legal procedure common to court cases involving fingerprint identification.

Skill in accurate appraisal of evidence and physical items submitted for examination.

Ability to establish and maintain latent print and other files.

Ability to express facts and results of examination clearly, concisely, and objectively, both orally and in writing.

Ability to prepare fingerprint charts and other exhibits illustrative of identifications for court testimony and other purposes.

Ability to provide expert testimony in court.

Ability to provide pertinent information regarding the planning, assignment, training, and work products/results of subordinate employees.

#### MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Graduation from high school or equivalent (GED) and completion of advanced technical or college level coursework or training equivalent to F.B.I. latent print school; plus three (3) years of experience in latent print examination. An equivalent combination of training, education or experience will also be considered.

#### CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

Possession of a valid drivers license.

Possession of appropriate certifications.

REVISED: 10/05