

POLICE DETECTIVE

FLSA Status: Covered
Union Representation: Portland Police Association

Class Summary:

This is highly skilled criminal investigation work. Employees occupying positions of this class are responsible for performing the most complex and difficult criminal investigative duties. Work involves the application of special knowledge and techniques in the processing, follow-up, and investigation of alleged crimes. Work also involves performing undercover operations, operating technical investigative equipment, and interpreting data. Employees may be assigned to a special project where individual skills and abilities can be utilized. Assignments are received from superior officers and usually entail the processing and investigation of the case until it is cleared or completed. This class is distinguished from that of Police Officer by the greater intensity and scope of investigations as well as the greater responsibility for effectively interrogating hostile or reluctant persons and for preparing the more complex cases for presentation in criminal court. Incumbents are expected to identify the priorities of work, request assistance as needed, and organize their work for efficient completion. Supervisors coordinate needs for assistance, provide advice and counsel upon request, interpret Bureau policy, approve priorities, and provide administrative supervision. Work is reviewed for completeness and conformance to requirements for rules of evidence.

Examples of Work:

Receives and reviews reports of possible criminal activities; determines if further investigation is needed and if incident is related to other crimes or incidents; obtains additional evidence necessary to prosecute; or clears case by searching for-evidence and interrogating persons.

Visits businesses where criminals are likely to attempt to sell stolen items in order to identify such items; apprehends persons who stole them and those who knowingly assisted them; suppresses traffic in stolen goods and identifies the rightful owners of the stolen articles.

Investigates fire scenes to collect information; determines whether fire was caused by arson, gathers and prepares evidence necessary for presentation in court.

Investigates incidents where fraud, extortion, theft, robbery, homicide, felonious sex offenses, and similar crimes are alleged to gather facts, determine if a crime were committed, and carry through the process until the case is concluded; super- vises other personnel assisting with investigation.

Locates and interviews witnesses; cultivates informants, determines their relative reliability, evaluates their information, and follows up on leads provided; executes arrest and search warrants.

Reviews computer disks, audio and videotapes for evidence of criminal activity.

Administers polygraph examinations; determines where silent burglary detection devices should be installed; installs and monitors them; and makes arrests.

Evaluates evidence obtained; discusses case with District

Examples of Work: (continued)

Attorney; gathers additional evidence, as necessary; and testifies in court.

Not all the work performed is specifically described. Not all tasks are done at all work locations.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities: (At time of appointment)

Considerable knowledge of criminal investigation techniques and practices.

Considerable knowledge of the rules of evidence, arrest for probable cause and similar laws and statutes.

Knowledge of and skill in the operation of common personal computer hardware and software, audio and video taping equipment.

Skill in reviewing a multitude of information related to a criminal incident, identifying the key elements, and from this, developing a case which can be successfully prosecuted.

Skill in testifying clearly, cogently, and creditably in criminal court.

Skill in planning and organizing work independently.

Skill in expressing ideas effectively orally and in writing.

Special Requirement:

Possession of a valid state driver's license.

Working Conditions:

Work in this class is typically performed both in an office environment and in the field. Detectives may be required to attend autopsies if assigned to homicide detail. Detectives are also subject to being called back to work during emergencies and may be required to carry a pager.

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Class History:

Adopted: 08-19-75

Revised and re-established: 11-19-01

June 2009 - Change Job Class number from 5150 to 30000302, due to system change.