



**COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA
INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR THE POSITION OF:**

Criminalist II

An Equal Opportunity Employer

SALARY

\$32.50 - \$39.33 Hourly \$2,600.24 - \$3,146.40 Biweekly \$5,633.85 - \$6,817.20 Monthly
\$67,606.20 - \$81,806.40 Annually
\$6,210.86 - \$7,518.34 *Effective Monthly

*Effective Wage includes: Base Wage, the County-paid portion of the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) required employee contribution, as well as any applicable negotiated amount(s).

ISSUE DATE: 06/25/10

FINAL FILING DATE: 07/23/10. If the Final Filing Date states "Continuous", the application filing period may close any time after ten business days from the issue date of this job announcement if sufficient qualified applications have been received. Postmarks are not acceptable, therefore it is important to submit your application as soon as possible.

THE POSITION

Under supervision, to perform physical and chemical analyses related to scientific crime detection.

This recruitment requires the submission of an online application. No paper applications will be accepted. Applicants must apply online at www.sccjobs.org. Computers are available at the County Government Center, 70 West Hedding Street, 8th Floor, East Wing, San Jose, CA 95110, during normal business hours, for applicants to apply online.

All applicants are required to complete the supplemental questionnaire. Applications received without the completion of the supplemental questionnaire will be rejected.

TYPICAL TASKS

- Makes chemical and physical analyses, and microscopic examinations in the identification and comparison of evidence such as hair, blood, poisons, narcotics, paint, glass, bullets, cartridge cases, firearms, and tool marks;
- Examines evidence utilizing various analytical techniques such as gas chromatography, spectrophotometric analyses, comparative microscopy, filtered ultraviolet light, x-ray, infrared photography, photomacrography and photomicrography;
- Makes field investigations at the crime scene and other pertinent locations to search for, collect and preserve evidence;
- Prepares evidence for presentation in court, participates in studies to interpret and correlate alcohol analysis with subjective observations of the demeanor and behavior of persons who have ingested known amounts of ethyl alcohol.
- Performs chemical analysis to determine the presence and quantity of toxic agents in post mortem fluids and tissues;

- Testifies as to the results of laboratory analysis and interprets the alcohol level of blood samples to the courts and other legal hearings;
- Consults and advises law enforcement officers and prosecuting attorneys regarding nature of evidence or the results of laboratory analyses and their meaning;
- Studies new techniques and procedures;
- Prepares reports on laboratory analysis and results;
- May be assigned to make technical presentations to outside groups;
- May examine and compare hand writings and other documentary evidence;
- Performs related work as required.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS Graduation from an accredited college or equivalent education with a major in criminalistics, chemistry, biochemistry, or a related field and two years of experience in the practice of general criminalistics. A Masters degree in Criminalistics, chemistry, biochemistry or physics may be substituted for one year of the required general experience.

Knowledge of:

- Basic principles, methods, materials and techniques of criminalistics;
- Principles of chemistry, physics, biochemistry, physiology and photography as related to criminalistics;
- Recent developments, current literature and sources of information in the field of criminalistics;
- Common types of narcotics, poisons, firearms and explosives;
- Basic laws of evidence, criminal procedures and crimes.

Ability to:

- Perform a variety of chemical, instrumental and other laboratory analyses;
- Speak effectively as an expert in the presentation of laboratory findings before groups or in court;
- Operate a variety of photographic equipment to produce professional and accurate results;
- Develop and maintain good working relationships with other agencies and fellow employees;
- Prepare clear, concise reports.

Veterans Preference Information

This recruitment has been identified as non-entry level by the Human Resources Director. Any veteran who has submitted a copy of their DD214 form, and received an honorable discharge within the last five years, will be given a preferential credit of five percent (ten percent for those identified as disabled veteran's), after attaining a passing examination score for a numerically scored examination.

THE EXAMINATION PROCESS: The examination process may include one or more of the following: application review, application appraisal, preliminary competitive rating, performance test, written test, and/or oral interview examination.

This recruitment may require completion of Supplemental Questions in order to evaluate your education, training and experience relative to the required knowledge and abilities for the position you are applying for.

Your responses to the questions may also be reviewed and scored in a Competitive Rating evaluation process based on pre-determined rating criteria. Your answers should be as complete as possible, as no additional information will be accepted from applicants once the Competitive Rating evaluation has begun.

DISASTER SERVICE WORKERS: Under California law, all County employees are designated as Disaster Service Workers (DSW). In the event of a catastrophic event, County employees may be expected to fulfill emergency action assignments. As DSW's, they may be assigned to assist in any disaster service activity that promotes the protection of public health and safety and preservation of lives and property.

INFORMATION ON PERS CONTRIBUTION: For salaries above a limitation imposed by federal law (that limit per IRS is \$245,000 for 2010): (1) neither the County nor the employee makes contributions to PERS on the portion of salary that exceeds the limit, and (2) the portion of the salary that exceeds the limit is not used by PERS to calculate the retirement benefit.

APPLICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AND FILED ONLINE AT:

<http://www.sccjobs.org/>

OR

70 W. Hedding Street, 8th Floor, East Wing
San Jose, CA 95110

EXAM #10-V68-A

CRIMINALIST II

JL

Criminalist II Supplemental Questionnaire

- * 1. Describe your educational background and any special training you have taken pertaining to the Criminalist II position. Please attach or fax copies of your college transcripts indicating required course work. Fax number (408) 295-3012, ATT: Julia Long

- * 2. Describe a challenging situation or case in which you have been involved that best demonstrates your knowledge and abilities in forensic science OR describe an achievement which demonstrates your ability to solve technical problems. Be specific how your own initiative and personal effort contributed to the achievements described.

- Studies new techniques and procedures;
- Conducts research in the development of new techniques, methods and equipment in connection with scientific criminal investigation;
- Performs analysis, evaluates findings, and interprets results in court on the alcohol level of blood samples;
- Participates in studies to interpret and correlate alcohol analysis with subjective observations of the demeanor and behavior of persons who have ingested known amounts of ethyl alcohol;
- Prepares reports on laboratory analysis and results;
- May be assigned to make technical presentations to outside groups;
- May examine and compare handwriting and other documentary evidence and performs related work as required.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS Graduation from an accredited college or equivalent education with a major in criminalistics, chemistry, biochemistry, or related field, and four years of experience in the practice of general criminalistics.

A Masters degree in criminalistics, chemistry, biochemistry, or physics may be substituted for one year of the required general experience.

Possession of a valid California Driver's License may be required.

Knowledge of:

- Principles, methods, materials and techniques of criminalistics;
- Principles of chemistry, physics, biochemistry, physiology, and photography as related to criminalistics;
- Recent developments, current literature and sources of information in the field of criminalistics;
- Common types of narcotics, poisons, firearms and explosives;
- Laws of evidence, criminal procedures and crimes.

Ability to:

- Perform a variety; of chemical, instrumental, and other laboratory analyses;
- Speak effectively as an expert in the presentation of laboratory findings before groups and in court;
- Operate a variety of photographic equipment to produce professional and accurate results;
- Develop and maintain good working relationships with other agencies and fellow employees;
- Prepare clear, concise reports.

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EXAM #10-V67-A

CRIMINALIST III

JL

Criminalist III Supplemental Questionnaire

- * 1. Describe your educational background and any special training you may have taken pertaining to the Criminalist III position. Please attach or fax copies of your college transcripts indicating required course work. Fax number (408) 295-3012, ATT: Julia Long

- * 2. Describe a challenging situation or case in which you have been involved that best demonstrates your knowledge and abilities in forensic science OR describe an achievement which demonstrates your ability to solve technical problems. Be how your own initiative and personal effort contributed to the achievements described.