JOB DESCRIPTION - CITY OF NEWTON

TITLE: FIREFIGHTER

DEPARTMENT: Fire
CIVIL SERVICE: Yes

UNION: Yes
FLSA: Non - Exempt

APPROVAL:

DATE: 10-7-02

DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR

DATE: 10-7-02

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

LAST UPDATE: 10/7/02

DEFINITION: To protect life, property and the environment, under the general supervision of the Fire Captain, participates in general firefighting activities and emergency pre-hospital care of the sick and injured, in response to alarms and emergency calls; drives and operates firefighting apparatus and ambulance vehicles; and performs other duties as required.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS: Position is subject to 24-hour shift assignment, working weekends and holidays, but may be assigned to 8-hour shift, 40-hour week assignment; drives ambulances to medical emergencies, performs pre-hospital emergency medical care functions at emergency scenes and enroute to medical facilities as certified; assesses patient symptoms and determines appropriate emergency medical procedures to be employed; communicates patient symptoms and action taken to hospital emergency room staff using mobile and portable two-way radio equipment; lifts and carries patients; restrains combative patients, assesses presence of physical or sexual abuse and reports evidence to medical and law enforcement officials; completes medical incident reports and prepares patient billing criteria. Drives firefighting apparatus or ambulance vehicles to fire alarms as certified; operates pumping and aerial ladder apparatus; utilizes hand tools and power tools in rescue, forcible entry, ventilation, and salvage work; directs hose streams into and within structures involved in fire; makes preliminary assessment of evidence at fire scenes for fire cause; reports evidence of possible arson to investigate officials; completes written reports describing observations at fire scenes and other emergency sites. Responds to and performs containment operations at hazardous materials incidents, following accepted decontamination practices; performs inspections of building and facilities for pre-incident planning and hazard assessment; records pertinent information on reports and building drawings for emergency reference. Conducts tours of fire station facilities; explains duties and operations; conducts public fire prevention presentations; demonstrates proper use of fire protection equipment and explains maintenance requirements. Performs service tasks on fire extinguishers for the public; performs minor repair and service tasks on vehicles and gasoline powered tools and equipment; receives and records information from dispatcher directing emergency response; participates in training activities; maintains buildings and grounds; performs other duties as required.
NON-ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS: Uses office equipment, micro computers, copy machines and calculators; answers telephone calls from citizens and refers their inquiries or requests as required.

WORKING CONDITIONS: Wears heavy insulated protective clothing and self-contained breathing apparatus to protect against thermal, chemical and radiation hazards; performs all fire related tasks at elevated heights on ladders and aerial firefighting apparatus as required; performs tasks within confined spaces with limited or no visibility as required; performs tasks in all weather conditions, on all surfaces, lifting and carrying ladders, hoses, tools, rescued people, salvaged furniture and belongings.

QUALIFICATIONS:

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES: Thorough knowledge of city streets and addresses; knowledge of City Code relating to fire and life safety. Skill in use and operation of all tools, equipment and apparatus operated by and for the Fire Department. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with fellow firefighters and supervisors in a close living/working environment; ability to serve as attendant in charge during emergency and non-emergency ambulance service responses; ability to function effectively to treat the illnesses and trauma suffered by patients; ability to function effectively at elevated heights or in confined conditions with little or no visibility; ability to pass Civil Service physical examination; ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing; ability to adjust to changing situations, priorities and deadlines, while maintaining efficiency and effectiveness; ability to establish priorities in order to accomplish a variety of duties and responsibilities.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS: For those tasks where a personal or City vehicle is used, individual must be physically capable of operating the vehicle safely, possess a valid Iowa operators license and have an acceptable driving record. Must obtain an Iowa Class D Chauffeurs license within one year of appointment. Must obtain Emergency Medical Technician Paramedic Specialist certification within one year of appointment. Must obtain certification as Hazardous Materials First Responder at the Operations Level within one year of appointment.

ACCEPTABLE EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING: Graduation from High School or equivalent.