Crime Laboratory Specialist II

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Performs complex (journey-level) crime laboratory, firearm, or latent print identification work. Work involves collecting, identifying, classifying and analyzing physical evidence related to criminal investigations, as well as latent prints, firearms, and deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) identification work. May provide guidance to others. Works under general supervision, with moderate latitude for the use of initiative and independent judgment.

EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Enters latent print cases into the automated fingerprint identification system and identifies the axis and core of each latent print entered into the system.

Evaluates and analyzes latent prints and photographs of latent prints submitted by law enforcement agencies.

Evaluates firearms, bullets, and cartridge cases submitted by law enforcement and enters images of those items into computer imaging database.

Maintains and handles evidence, including receipt, bar coding, storage, return, destruction, and inventory.

Maintains records and prepares reports concerning results of analysis performed.

Operates, maintains, and performs minor repairs on crime laboratory equipment, hardware, and apparatus.

Performs side-by-side comparisons of each fingerprint candidate that the automated fingerprint identification system identifies as a possible match to the submitted latent print; or each bullet or cartridge case candidate that the database identifies as a possible match to the submitted sample.

Performs side-by-side comparisons of latent prints against inked-rolled impressions in the unidentified latent print database that the system identified as possible matches.

Prepares chemical compounds and solutions used in the analysis of evidence, including print and DNA identification.
Transfers instruments and inventory and installs new or transferred equipment.

Assists with crime scene investigations.

Assists with the examination of DNA samples to determine whether they match other samples.

Assists with assigning a transaction code and laboratory case number to each latent print case and enters alpha data.

Assist with the training of law enforcement agency personnel in evidence collection and automated latent print system operations.

May testify in court about investigative and analytical methods and findings.

May deliver evidence to court when needed.

Performs related work as assigned.

GENERAL QUALIFICATION GUIDELINES

EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION

Experience in crime laboratory, firearm, and/or fingerprint identification work. Graduation from a standard senior high school or equivalent is generally preferred. Experience and education may be substituted for one another.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES

Knowledge of criminal records systems, of automated fingerprint identification systems, and of rules of evidence.

Skill in recognizing and comparing patterns on a fingerprint terminal, in researching and identifying prints of subjects, in recognizing and comparing bullet and cartridge case markings, in operating a computer imaging system, and in the use of a computer and applicable software.

Ability to follow standardized procedures, to compare and classify fingerprint and firearms data, to make fingerprint identifications, to effectively process latent prints, to safely operate and fire a firearm, to capture images for database entry, and to communicate effectively.