Class Code: 6122

CRIME LABORATORY SPECIALIST III

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Performs advanced (senior-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); testifying in court; and training law enforcement personnel in system operations. May supervise the work of others. Works under minimal supervision, with extensive latitude for the use of initiative and independent judgment.

EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Coordinates the entering of or 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.

Assigns transaction codes and laboratory case numbers to each latent print case and enters alpha data.

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

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.

Examines DNA samples to determine whether they match other samples.

Makes comparisons with known prints and prepares reports concerning results of analyses and examinations performed.

Presents testimony in court concerning chain of custody, techniques used, and results obtained.
Trains law enforcement agency personnel in evidence collection and automated latent print systems operations.

May supervise the work of others.

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 and 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 computer imaging, 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, to communicate effectively, and to supervise the work of others.