



## FORENSICS EXAMINER II

DEPARTMENT: POLICE

**GRADE 43**

### CHARACTERISTICS OF CLASS:

Under administrative direction, the purpose of the position is to perform a variety of highly technical forensic functions, including the discovery/recovery of digital evidence and the forensic examination of computers, phones, various digital devices, and video/audio evidence, in support of criminal and administrative investigations undertaken by the Pembroke Pines Police Department.

Work includes all of the job characteristics of Examiner I, including the processes needed for collecting, preserving, analyzing, and presenting digital evidence for investigative consideration, expecting the results to be introduced as evidence in a court of law. An Examiner II issues forensic reports and offers expert testimony for the associated reported exhibits, findings, and opinions.

Examiner II is recognized as a senior-level examiner who has accumulated a vast amount of training and experience in the practice of one or more digital forensics disciplines. They are the teachers, mentors, and acting lab supervisors within the Forensic Services Unit. In addition to conducting forensic examinations, Examiner II performs internal and external peer review examinations. Their work ensures the Forensic Services Unit provides the highest quality results with maximum efficiency.

Examiner II personnel are expected to learn and perform, as needed, the Forensic Services Unit's administrative functions and its laboratory operations.

### EXAMPLES OF ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

1. Conduct objective, and impartial digital forensic examination of computers, phones, various digital devices, and video/audio evidence to recover data for use as investigative leads and/or digital evidence exhibits in criminal and administrative investigations.
2. When necessary, responds to crime scenes to discover, recover, seize, and protect digital evidence. This may include the operation of an assortment of digital video recorders/computers in uncomfortable environments.
3. Be subject to off-hour "callouts" and shift adjustments as required.
4. Maintain strict adherence to the "chain of custody" for all evidence received and ensures the integrity of each item handled and analyzed.
5. Applicants must be willing to work in an environment that will expose them to pictures, videos, and imagery that is obscene, offensive and/or graphic.
6. Prepare reports and notations documenting applicable exhibits, findings, and opinions.
7. Determine the most appropriate method of protecting original evidence.

8. Process digital evidence items identified as bio-hazardous materials in a safe protective manner that minimizes contamination.
9. Conduct validation and verification testing relating to forensic products, forensic methodology, and the validity of forensic findings and opinions.
10. Conduct peer review examinations for other digital forensic examiners.
11. Communicate, coordinate, and cooperate with other agencies (federal, state, and local) as required.
12. Provide consultation, technical guidance, and assistance in evaluating and investigating cases where digital media/video is potential evidence.
13. Provide training to law enforcement personnel through presentations, lectures, and policy development.
14. Assist prosecutors in preparing for the courtroom presentation of forensic evidence and perform litigation support related to digital evidence concerns.
15. Assist judges, magistrates, or hearing officers to help them understand the implications of digital forensic evidence when appropriate.
16. Provide expert testimony in digital/video forensic examination.
17. Interact with investigators, analysts, or computer professionals to acquire information necessary for forensic examinations.
18. Review various court decisions, scientific journals, industry journals/articles (forensic, investigative, and IT-related), and industry announcements relating to digital forensics.
19. Continually attends training, workshops, and seminars in digital forensics, new technologies, and methodologies. This includes complying with continuing professional education requirements to maintain certification in the field of Digital Forensic Examination.
20. Due to the vast scope of knowledge and understanding required for this technical, mission-oriented job position, examiners shall ultimately be responsible for their level of technical knowledge, ability, and preparedness. Examiners will adequately prepare themselves for the challenges of their position (and of the day) with personal research and training. Reading volumes of research, instruction manuals, white papers, and other informational material is essential and required for this job position.
21. Maintain strict confidentiality of all investigative/examination matters of the Pembroke Pines Police Department.

## **REQUIREMENTS:**

### **A. Training and Experience:**

College degree or college technical certification with at least twenty-six (26) credit hours in computer science, forensic science, law, crime scene technology, criminal justice, criminology, technical report writing or related field, and standardized IT certifications are desirable.

Applicant must have excellent working skills with Microsoft Office products and the equivalent of computer technician skills for computer configuration and assembly, networking, Microsoft Windows, and the Internet.

Experience with APPLE Mac forensics, phone forensics, Apple Mac OS, Linux, Unix, databases, Powershell, phone applications, IOS and Android OS, digital video recorders and camera systems, computer coding languages, and advanced video editing are also desirable.

A minimum of (5) years of experience conducting (10) or more digital forensic examinations per year for a law enforcement agency that utilizes a digital forensic standard operating procedure and/or digital forensic industry best practice guideline is required.

The achievement of at least one vendor-neutral certification in digital/video forensic examination.

Attendance of 320 hours of formal digital/video forensic courses with a per year minimum of 40 CPE hours.

Applicants shall have experience offering expert-level testimony in depositions, hearings, and trials of the criminal court systems on three or more occasions.

Applicant must be willing to travel for training upon request.

### **B. Knowledge, Abilities, and Skills:**

Applicants shall possess good reading and technical writing skills.

Applicants shall have a thorough understanding of computer hardware, software, computer networking, and the use of the internet.

Applicants shall have received both vendor-related and vendor-independent training in the areas of digital forensics.

Applicants shall comprehensively understand state and federal rules of evidence, civil and criminal judicial systems, and regulatory and administrative processes relating to digital evidence's admission and litigation.

Applicants shall have an intimate working knowledge of digital forensic best practices and their day-to-day applications.

Applicants shall comprehensively understand legal issues for digital evidence regarding the search and seizure of digital evidence. This includes, but is not limited to, search and seizure authority, circumstances having exceptions to traditional search and seizure requirements, examination search limitations, public record request requirements, and the implications of contraband data and privileged/confidential data within seized digital media.

Applicants having experience working in law enforcement, governmental, military, or civilian (performing law enforcement examinations) digital forensic laboratories are preferred.

Possess and maintain a valid Florida Driver's License throughout employment without any restrictions that affect job performance.

**C. Physical Requirements: 4**

**D. Environmental Requirements: 1**

**E. Sensory Requirements: 2, 6, 7, 8 and 9**