

CLASS TITLE: ENVIRONMENTAL POLICE OFFICER (CAPTAIN) (DEM)

Class Code: 02265400
Pay Grade: 34A
EO Code: C

CLASS DEFINITION:

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES: Within the Division of Law Enforcement in the Department of Environmental Management (DEM), to work directly under the Chief and/or Deputy Chief, Division of Enforcement (DEM) and be responsible for the work of the staff of Environmental Police Officers and Detectives engaged in the enforcement of a variety of state laws pertaining to the protection and conservation of the natural resources of the state; and to do related work as required.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED: Works under the general direction of the Chief and/or the Deputy Chief, Division of Enforcement (DEM), from whom general instructions are received, with considerable latitude allowed in arranging details of work; work is reviewed for conformance to rules, regulations, policies and procedures as well as state and federal law.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED: Plans, assigns, supervises, and reviews the work of Environmental Police Officers. As assigned, may also plan, assign, supervise and review the work of Detective(s), investigator(s), dispatchers and other employees.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED:

Within the Division of Law Enforcement in the Department of Environmental Management (DEM), to work directly under the Chief and/or Deputy Chief, Division of Enforcement (DEM) and be responsible for the work of the staff of Environmental Police Officers and Detectives engaged in the enforcement of a variety of state laws pertaining to the protection and conservation of the natural resources of the state.

To act as a working supervisor, and to directly perform law enforcement tasks involved in enforcing a variety of state laws and federal laws pertaining to the operations of the Division.

To assist the Chief and Deputy Chief in supervising and administering the continuous training and development of assigned staff.

As assigned, to directly oversee, advise and support a team of Environmental Police Officers engaged in enforcing a variety of state laws and certain federal laws pertaining to: fish, game and shellfish, boating safety including the registration, numbering equipping and operation of motorboats in such waters; federal migratory bird laws and related rules and regulations; invertebrates and plants; fresh water wetlands, dams and resources; solid and hazardous waste transportation, storage and disposal and any other laws regarding solid and/or hazardous wastes; water and air pollution and open burning; prevention and suppression of forest fires; agriculture, farmland and pest control; the opening and closing of areas within the coastal waters to the taking of any and all types of fish, lobsters and shellfish.

As assigned, to plan, organize, supervise and review the work of subordinates engaged in patrolling the fields, woodlands, streams, ponds, lakes and tidal waters, state parks, management areas and game preserves for the enforcement of all state laws, rules and regulations of the state by Environmental Police Officers.

As assigned, to oversee, plan, assign, supervise and review the work of subordinates engaged in dispatch/communications system functions within the Division of Law Enforcement.

To apprehend and prosecute persons and/or companies in violation of such statutes.

To investigate internal matters at the direction of the Chief and as ordered by the Director.

To plan, assign, supervise and review the work of subordinates assigned to assist in such investigations and to review and evaluate their findings.

To develop and instruct a training program for the RI Municipal Police Training Academy and other authorities detailing the duties of the Environmental Police.

To address and timely respond to Access to Public Records (APRA) requests for records from the Division of Law Enforcement.

To oversee electronic security and maintenance for the Division's main office and marine base.

To purchase and maintain firearms and inventory for the Division.

To purchase and prepare for order new special order police package motor vehicles for Division use.

To direct the case preparation for board and/or administrative hearings and/or court presentation, including interviewing witnesses and taking their statements, and reviewing and obtaining records and other appropriate documents necessary for compiling records and evidence.

To utilize electronic equipment, computer software, automated databases and related technology and equipment in the performance of investigatory tasks such as case tracking, case reports, dissemination of information and research.

To make arrests as provided by law.

To prepare, review, and execute search and seizure warrants and arrest warrants.

To appear before boards and/or courts and provide testimony.

To cooperate with state, local and federal law enforcement authorities in the enforcement of state and federal laws, rules and regulations involving violations committed in such areas of illegal activities, and to coordinate departmental investigative activities and operations with such law enforcement agencies.

To review records and prepare reports.

To carry firearms as authorized.

To develop and implement a training program for local and state authorities involving the prevention and detection of violations of the Hazardous Waste Management Act, Refuse Disposal Act, Water Pollution Statutes, and pertinent environmental laws regulated by the department.

To do related work as required.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT:

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND CAPACITIES: A thorough knowledge of the provisions of state and pertinent federal laws and regulations relative to the protection of the environment pertaining to fish and game, boating, forestry, illegal disposal, storage, transportation, and treatment of hazardous waste within the state; a thorough knowledge of the principles and practices of environmental protection as they relate to hazardous waste, solid waste, water pollution and other pertinent environmental laws, rules, and regulations; a thorough knowledge of the enforcement of such laws, rules, and regulations to protect life and property; the ability to supervise and conduct a program of patrol and investigations; the ability to prepare cases for various boards and for court presentation; the ability to appear before boards, appear in court and give testimony; the ability to train and supervise subordinates assigned permanently or temporarily to assist; the ability to cooperate with state, local, and federal law enforcement agencies in the enforcement of environmental laws, and coordinate departmental operations with the activities of such law enforcement agencies; the ability to qualify with firearms and carry firearms; the ability to deal with others in a tactful and courteous manner; the ability to synthesize and analyze data and other information; the ability to prepare oral and written reports and to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing; and related capacities and abilities.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

Education: Possession of a bachelor's degree from a college of recognized standing in Biology, Natural Resources or a related discipline; and,

Experience: a minimum of three (3) years of supervisory experience as an Environmental Police Officer II, Environmental Police Officer III and/or Environmental Police Officer (Detective).

Or, Possession of a bachelor's degree from a college of recognized standing in Criminal Justice, Law Enforcement, Environmental Sciences or closely related field and a minimum of five (5) years of experience as a supervisory law enforcement officer within a public or federal law enforcement agency.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: At the time of appointment and continually thereafter:

1. Must possess and maintain a valid motor vehicle operator's license.
2. Must, at the time of application and continually thereafter, be free from any and all felony convictions.
3. Must meet the State of Rhode Island qualification requirements to carry weapons used in the performance of duty and must maintain such qualification requirements as a condition of employment.
4. Must, at the time of application and thereafter, continually meet all the requirements that are necessary for entry into the Municipal Police Training Academy (hearing, vision, fitness, etc.).
5. Must have ability to perform all law enforcement duties as required in the field, on special duty assignments and marine patrols.
6. Must be certified by the State of Rhode Island Commission on Standards and Training (Chapter 42-28.2 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, as amended) to be evidenced by graduation from the Municipal Police Training Academy. In accordance with RIGL 42-28.3-1, no person shall be appointed in any capacity until they shall have been evaluated and tested by a certified psychologist specified by the Director of the Department of Environmental Management and receive a satisfactory rating.
7. Must successfully complete and pass a CPR/first aid training course specified by the Department once every two (2) years.

Editorial Review: March 15, 2003

Class Revised: September 3, 2017

Class Revised: August 18, 2019