

**CLASS TITLE: SENIOR FORENSIC SCIENTIST**

**Class Code: 02729300**

**Pay Grade: 30A**

**EO: B**

**CLASS DEFINITION:**

**GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES:** To be responsible for performing complex biological, toxicological and chemical examinations of evidence related to sexual-assaults, homicides, or controlled substances, using modern methods and instrumentation; and to do related work as required.

**SUPERVISION RECEIVED:** Works under the general supervision of a superior with some latitude for the exercise of initiative and independent judgement; work is subject to review upon completion for conformance to accepted practices and policies.

**SUPERVISION EXERCISED:** As required, may oversee, instruct, train, and review the work of subordinates.

**ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED:**

To be responsible for performing complex biological, toxicological and chemical examinations of evidence related to sexual-assaults, homicides, or controlled substances, using modern methods and instrumentation.

To prepare reports of findings for use by the criminal justice system and to testify in court as an expert witness when required.

To be responsible for determining methods and sequences of procedures in performing examinations and analyses and to modify and develop methods in order to identify blood and body fluids and quantitative determinations of drugs and poisons in tissue and confiscated samples.

To record and interpret scientific results of examinations and tests and provide information and technical assistance to criminal justice agencies.

To be responsible for ensuring and maintaining a secure chain-of-custody of evidence.

To perform proficiency tests as a method of quality assurance and to perform minor repairs and adjustments to laboratory equipment and instrumentation.

To perform method research and compare new methods, techniques, equipment to existing functions and to make recommendations concerning the implementation of such new laboratory functions

To instruct police officers in the selection, collection and preservation and safe handling of evidence in order for appropriate laboratory testing and examination.

To attend meetings and seminars as required.

To participate in maintaining a quality assessment and improvement program.

To perform quality control procedure and identify compliance with standards.

To comply with all applicable governmental laws and regulations and institutional policies and procedures.

To perform technical review of laboratory data.

To do related work as required.

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT:**

**KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND CAPACITIES:** A thorough knowledge of chemistry, toxicology, biology and instrumental analysis as applied to forensic analysis; a thorough knowledge of the Rhode Island criminal justice system; the ability to perform and interpret complex tests and analyses; the ability to maintain a secure chain-of-custody of evidence; the ability to oversee, instruct, train, and review the work of subordinates assisting in the making of technical examinations and analyses in the area of forensic science; the ability to appear in court and provide testimony as an expert witness as required; the ability to perform method research and make

recommendations to a superior; the ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with criminal justice agencies; and related capacities and abilities.

**EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:**

Education: Such as may have been gained through: graduation from a college of recognized standing with a Bachelor's degree with specialization in Forensic Chemistry or a related science; and

Experience: Such as may have been gained through: employment in a responsible capacity involving the performance of complex forensic, biological, toxicological or chemical analysis of biological and confiscated specimens.

Class Created: February 28, 1988

Editorial Review: 3/15/03

Class Revised: September 16, 2018