CLASS TITLE: FORENSIC SCIENTIST

PURPOSE OF THE CLASSIFICATION: Under direct supervision is responsible for providing basic scientific information related to the adjudication of criminal matters in courts of record and performs other related duties.

ESSENTIAL TASKS: (Dependant on particular sub-discipline within forensic science)
• Obtains, examines, analyzes, identifies, compares and evaluates mock evidence (i.e., blood, urine, semen, hair, fibers, saliva, paint, glass, fire debris, soil, drugs, hazardous materials, firearms and components)
• Utilizes instrumentation, including, but not limited to: gas chromatography, ultraviolet and infrared spectrophotometry, mass spectroscopy, electrophoresis, polarizing, compound and comparison microscopes, thermocycler, capillary electrophoresis and x-ray spectrometer
• Manages training assignments to ensure meeting deadlines and demonstrating ability to maintain a reasonable backlog, planning, scheduling and coordinating laboratory work
• Trains in one laboratory section
• Prepares written scientific and statistical reports based on laboratory examinations and results
• Responsible for integrity and strict security of evidence and chain of custody
• Utilizes specialized computer software and hardware
• Attends meetings, seminars and continuing education classes
• Interprets laboratory examinations and results for police officers and attorneys
• Must report to work on a regular and timely basis

Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential tasks.

QUALIFICATIONS:
Training and Experience: Graduation from an accredited college or university with a bachelor's degree in one of the physical or biological sciences with some experience working in a forensic laboratory preferred.

Knowledge, Abilities and Skills: Knowledge of principles of analytical procedures of chemistry, biology, toxicology or related sciences; knowledge of hazards and toxicity of chemicals; and knowledge necessary to maintain laboratory equipment. Ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing on scientific test results; ability to perform accurate, basic scientific analysis and calculations; and ability to understand and influence the behavior of others within the organization, customers or the public in order to achieve job objectives and cause action or understanding.

Physical Requirements: Physical requirements include arm and hand dexterity enough to use a keyboard and telephone; frequent lifting and carrying up to 10 pounds with occasional lifting and carrying up to 50 pounds; occasional pushing and pulling up to 50 pounds; may be subject to walking, standing, sitting, reaching, balancing, bending, kneeling, crawling, handling, feeling, climbing, smelling and twisting; and vision, speech and hearing sufficient to perform the essential tasks.

Licenses and Certificates: Possession of a valid Oklahoma Class “D” Operators License.

WORKING ENVIRONMENT: Working environment is primarily indoors in a laboratory setting and may be exposed to various hazardous chemicals, toxic fumes/vapors/odors, biohazards, high noises and voltages.

Class Code: 2519
EEO Code: N-02
Pay Code: ST-34

Group: Cultural, Legal and Science
Series: Sciences

Effective Date: August 8, 2007