



# INDIAN RIVER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

### CRIME SCENE TECHNICIAN: LATENT PRINT EXAMINER (CIVILIAN)

Starting Salary: \$50,000

#### Brief Job Description:

This position is responsible for analyzing latent prints for sufficiency; comparing suitable latent prints to known exemplars; and issuing detailed reports on all findings. The Crime Scene Technician will utilize available databases to search latent prints in an effort to identify them. The Crime Scene Technician will also be responsible for processing and examining physical evidence for latent prints and documenting resulting evidence via photography and written notes.

The Crime Scene Technician will be required to provide testimony as an expert witness during court proceedings. The Crime Scene Technician may be called on to support crime scene operations of varying nature.

#### Job Prerequisites and Minimum Qualifications:

- Minimum education: high school diploma or equivalency. Candidates with college degrees qualify for a salary incentive.
- Experience in the field of ten print or latent print identification strongly preferred.
- Experience in processing evidence for latent prints preferred.
- Continuing education in the field of latent prints (e.g., basic latent comparison class, fingerprint processing class, or internship) preferred.
- Experience and/or continuing education in crime scene investigations or other forensic discipline will be taken into consideration.

#### Essential Job Functions:

The job functions listed below are representative of the job tasks expected of the position; however, omission of specific statements does not preclude management from assigning specific duties not listed herein if such duties are a logical assignment to the position and are necessary to fulfill operational needs.

- Evaluate latent prints for their suitability in conducting comparisons. Conduct comparisons of suitable latent prints to the known standards and render a decision as to whether the latent print originated from the same individual.
- Conduct searches of latent prints utilizing the software for local, state, and national AFIS database systems. Review resulting candidate lists and conduct additional comparisons as necessary.
- Document all work performed via notes, digital markup of comparisons, and formal reports.
- Process items submitted by sheriff's office personnel for latent prints utilizing a variety of methods that may require the use of chemicals and specialized equipment.
- Document latent prints via digital photography, which may necessitate the use of advanced photographic knowledge and techniques.
- Record known prints (finger, palm, foot) from individuals for use in comparisons. Individuals may be suspects, defendants, or victims and may be live or deceased.
- Perform comparisons of known prints to resolve questions of identity in a variety of circumstances.
- Complete detailed reports of all work conducted utilizing Microsoft Word and other word processing applications.
- Conduct training of sheriff's office personnel in latent print development and collection.
- Conduct technical review of casework performed by fellow latent prints examiners, including verification of identification decisions.
- Receive latent print evidence from local municipalities and complete appropriate documentation to maintain chain of custody.
- Serve in a support role on crime scenes when called upon to do so.
- Prompt and regular job attendance is an essential job function.

### **Knowledge, Skills & Abilities:**

- Must show a high level of initiative and ability to self-manage.
- Must be able to effectively prioritize tasks to meet deadlines.
- Must display professionalism in their interactions with others.
- Must be proficient in the operation of a computer and basic computer programs, such as Microsoft Word. Familiarity with Adobe Photoshop or similar program preferable.
- Must possess good visual acuity, with or without corrective lenses. Candidates will be required to successfully complete a visual acuity examination, regardless of work experience.
- Must have excellent analytical skills, organizational skills, and attention to detail.
- Ability to communicate effectively verbally and in writing.
- Ability to effectively present information to groups and respond to questions from supervisors, attorneys, investigators, and other relevant parties.
- Ability to safely use chemicals and operate forensic equipment to obtain latent print evidence.
- Ability to learn and use specialized applications.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships.
- Willingness to work unusual hours or in atypical environments when called upon to do so.
- Willingness to achieve certification as a latent print examiner with the International Association of Identification when eligible.

### **Benefits available to this position:**

- Participation in the Florida Retirement System (FRS) as a high-risk member.

- Salary incentive for college degrees.
- Option for a 4-day work week (10 hr. shifts).

### **Working Conditions:**

- Work is primarily in an office or laboratory environment and includes the operation of standard office equipment, as well as specialized equipment, such as light sources, digital cameras, superglue fuming chambers, etc.
- Physical requirements consist of being able to sit and stand for long periods of time.
- The majority of comparison work is performed on a computer screen. Candidates must be able to withstand prolonged periods of focus on minute details.
- The Crime Scene Technician may be exposed to mechanical, biological, and chemical hazards associated with the various processes utilized in the development of latent prints. These hazards may include, but are not limited to:
  - Mechanical: operation of and working near moving machinery and equipment
  - Biological: variety of viruses, bacteria, and parasites
  - Chemical: lead, dust, acids
- The Crime Scene Technician may be exposed to biological hazards when recording known prints from individuals in a corrections or morgue environment. These include, but are not limited to, communicable diseases, such as tuberculosis, and any viruses communicable through bodily fluids.
- The Crime Scene Technician may be requested to assist on crime scenes of varying nature, which may require working in adverse environmental conditions and exposure to unpleasant sights and odors
  - The repetitive foot movements required are right foot only for 7 hours a day; both feet for 5-6 hours a day.
  - The hands used for repetitive action would be affected by whether the individual was left or right handed. It includes simple/light grasping and fine dexterity for 7 hours a day; firm/strong grasping for 3-4 hours a day.
  - Movements associated with the duties and responsibilities are: bend/stoop and pushing/pulling repeatedly for 5-6 hours a day; squat, reach above shoulder level, crouch, kneel and balancing frequently for 3-4 hours a day; crawl and climb occasionally for 1-2 hours a day.
  - The weight that could be lifted during the course of performing the duties and responsibilities of a crime scene technician are zero to 25 pounds for 3-4 hours a day; 26 to over 100 pounds for 1-2 hours a day, depending on the activity.

### **Application Process:**

Please visit our website at [www.ircsheriff.org](http://www.ircsheriff.org) to complete a pre-screen application.

**Selection Process:**

The selection process will consist of a review of the employment and educational history of candidates. Eligible candidates will be required to complete a commercially available visual acuity test. The test will be coordinated by the Human Resources Unit of the Indian River County Sheriff's Office.

Those candidates selected for interviews, will be evaluated on their responses to job related questions based on communication skills, job knowledge, initiative, education, and experience. The Deputy Chiefs will make the final selection in consultation with the Sheriff.

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VETERANS' PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS  
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DRUG TESTING IS CONDUCTED AS A CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT**