



# **ALTAMONT FIRE DEPARTMENT**

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**EST 1893**

## **JOB DESCRIPTION Volunteer Firefighter**

### **GENERAL PURPOSE**

The Volunteer Firefighter (Volunteer FF) serves the community by responding to a wide variety of situations, ranging from emergencies that immediately threaten life or property to routine citizen requests for information or assistance. They perform within the scope of the policies and procedures of the Altamont Fire Department and they perform duties in the following general categories: fire suppression, emergency rescue, hazardous material responses, training, and public education. The Volunteer FF normally works under the supervision of a company officer and is expected to function effectively as part of a highly trained team. They are also expected to perform their duties under adverse conditions and physical conditions that may pose a high risk of personal injury or exposure to hazardous conditions or infectious diseases.

The Volunteer FF is required to attend regularly scheduled training in order to maintain the high level of knowledge, skill and ability necessary to function safely and effectively as a firefighter in accordance with state law and standard operating procedures.

The work performance of a Volunteer firefighter is continuously evaluated for general knowledge, skill proficiency, and ability to work as part of a team. Any deficiencies are corrected through remedial training.

### **DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS**

The Volunteer Firefighter is a non-compensated position. The Volunteer Firefighter may be awarded "points" based on participation in order to receive retirement benefits. Volunteer Firefighters are not normally assigned shifts but are expected to respond from home or work to Department calls.

Individuals fulfilling the duties and responsibilities of a Volunteer Firefighter will at all times present themselves in a courteous, professional and responsible manner.

### **ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Volunteer Firefighter drives or rides an emergency vehicle in response to fire, rescue, hazardous materials response/mitigation and routine requests for help or assistance. In the performance of their duties, the Volunteer Firefighter places equipment, lays and connects hose; operates high-capacity pumps and directs water streams; raises and climbs ladders; uses chemical extinguishers, safety belts, lines and hooks and uses self-contained breathing



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apparatus. The Volunteer Firefighter may enter burning buildings as part of a fire suppression team, perform ventilation tasks above ground, carry heavy objects and equipment and rescue injured or trapped victims. The Volunteer Firefighter cleans and maintains the station, department-owned vehicles, tools, and equipment.

## DESIRED MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Ability to:
  - Communicate effectively, both orally and in writing; ability to understand and carry out verbal and written instructions using the English language.
  - Maintain physical conditioning necessary to perform efficiently in emergency situations; meet medical and physical standards as established.
  - Learn the geography of the District, the location of important buildings and the street system.
  - Participate in training drills; attend school and classes on firefighting, hydraulics, first aid, fire equipment, and apparatus, and other classes associated with recognized firefighter standards.
  - Learn and apply technical information pertaining to fire fighting.
  - Participate in fire-safety education classes.
  - Perform community service activities.
  - Participate in Department sponsored fundraisers
  - Analyze and cope with a variety of emergency situations calmly but effectively and to react quickly to secure accurate and precise information on the location, extent, and nature of fires and emergency aid requests.
  - Sustain heavy physical labor during periods of intense activity in emergency situations; to work at varying heights above grade.
  - Work within a para-military organization and respond readily to directives.
  - Establish and maintain effective working relationships with co-workers, supervisors, and the general public; to work effectively as a team member.
  - Service and operate all Department equipment and apparatus.
  - Perform necessary maintenance, testing and care of fire hoses, trucks, ladders, and auxiliary equipment and apparatus.
  - Prevent waste and damage of materials, supplies, and equipment.
  - Perform general maintenance and minor repairs to station facilities; perform assigned janitorial activities and minor maintenance and painting.
  - Maintain necessary records and reports, and incident forms, to accommodate needs of the department including computer data entry.



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## **PHYSICAL AND MENTAL DEMANDS**

The physical and mental demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this position. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

### **Physical Demands:**

Work is performed primarily in the fire station, then on emergency medical scenes, mass casualty, fire scenes and extraordinary events as they occur. Performing tasks under emergency conditions may require strenuous exertion. The exposure to death, emotional stress, patients with contagious diseases and terminal illnesses can be expected.

### **Mental Demands:**

While performing the duties of this position, the employee will be regularly required to use written and oral communication skills; read and interpret data, information and documents; analyze and solve problems; use math and mathematical reasoning; observe and interpret situations; learn and apply new information or skills; and interact with fire department members, other organizations and the public.

## **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this position. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Physical hazard from fire, equipment, traffic, smoke inhalation, and falling objects at emergency scenes, and exposure to health risks may occur. Performance of hazardous tasks under emergency conditions may require strenuous exertion under such handicaps as limited visibility, exposure to hazardous or toxic chemicals and gases, extremes in temperatures, cramped surroundings, and contact with death, emotional stress, contagious diseases, and terminal illness.