CITY OF LAKE ELSINORE

Code Enforcement Officer I

Class specifications are only intended to present a descriptive summary of the range of duties and responsibilities associated with specified positions. Therefore, specifications may not include all duties performed by individuals within a classification. In addition, specifications are intended to outline the minimum qualifications necessary for entry into the class and do not necessarily convey the qualifications within the position.

DEFINITION:

Under general supervision, performs the full array of duties assigned to classes in the Code Enforcement series, including residential, commercial and industrial site inspections and investigations to determine compliance with applicable federal, state and local codes, laws and regulations; performs other related duties as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS:

The Code Enforcement Officer I is the entry level class that allows the incumbent to develop journey level knowledge and abilities. Initially, under immediate supervision, incumbents perform the more routine inspection and code enforcement duties while learning City policies and procedures. As experience is gained, there is greater independence of action within established guidelines. This classification is alternatively staffed with Code Enforcement Officer II and incumbents may advance to the higher level after gaining experience and demonstrating a level of proficiency that meets the qualifications of the higher level class.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED/EXERCISED:

Receives immediate supervision from the Building & Safety Manager. Incumbents in this position do not routinely exercise supervision.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS: (include but are not limited to the following)

• Performs the full array of residential, commercial, industrial, and site inspections; determines existence and type of code violation; compiles, analyzes and evaluates findings of investigations and inspections; coordinates with property owners or their representatives and other regulatory agencies to take corrective action; performs follow-up inspections and investigation as required; ensures compliance with all applicable municipal codes and regulations; issues citations for non-compliance; issues parking citations for illegally parked vehicles.

• Interprets, applies and explains applicable municipal codes, zoning ordinances, building codes, vehicle codes, state housing, health and safety codes, and other related laws, codes and regulations; advises property owners on the requirements for compliance; explains processes and procedures for obtaining compliance or appropriate permits; testifies in court.

• Maintains clear, concise and comprehensive records and reports related to enforcement activities; maintains communication/action logs for code enforcement cases; enters and retrieves information from records systems.
• Enforces regulations pertaining to animal control, oversize vehicle parking, business licenses, banner permits, news racks, temporary political signs, and Title 17 Zoning Codes.

• Photographs violations; gathers evidence and prepares cases for court proceedings; produces photographs and records of violations for evidence; represents the City in court regarding non-compliance if required.

• Responds to questions and concerns from the public, departmental staff and other agencies; provides information as appropriate and resolves service issues and complaints; cooperates with other agencies.

• Establishes positive working relationships with representatives of community organizations, state/local agencies, City management and staff and the public.

PHYSICAL, MENTAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING CONDITIONS:

Position requires sitting, standing, walking on level and slippery surfaces, reaching, twisting, turning, kneeling, bending, stooping, squatting, crouching, grasping and making repetitive hand movement in the performance of daily duties. The position also requires both near and far vision when making inspections, reading written reports and work related documents. Acute hearing is required when providing phone and personal service. The need to lift, carry and push tools, equipment and supplies weighing 25 pounds or more is also required. Additionally, the incumbent in this outdoor position works in all weather conditions, including wet, hot and cold. Incumbents may frequently deal with irate members of the public. The nature of the work also requires the incumbent to drive motorized vehicles, work in heavy vehicle traffic conditions and often work with constant interruptions.

Some of these requirements may be accommodated for otherwise qualified individuals requiring and requesting such accommodations.

QUALIFICATIONS: (The following are minimal qualifications necessary for entry into the classification.)

Education and/or Experience:

Any combination of education and experience that has provided the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary for a Code Enforcement Officer I. A typical way of obtaining the required qualifications is to possess the equivalent of one year of relevant experience that includes heavy public contact, enforcement activities, and a high school diploma or equivalent. Possession of a bachelor’s degree in planning, construction technology, police sciences or a related field may be substituted for the required experience

License/Certificate:

Possession of, or ability to obtain, a valid class C California driver's license. Ability to obtain P.C. 832 within first six months of employment.

KNOWLEDGE/ABILITIES: (The following are a representative sample of the KSA’s necessary to perform essential duties of the position.)
Knowledge of:

Modern principles, practices and methods used in the enforcement of a variety of codes, permits and regulations; methods and techniques used in enforcement and investigation; rules of evidence and court procedures; basic principles of mathematics; applicable federal, state and local laws, codes and regulations; methods and techniques of scheduling work assignments; standard office procedures, practices and equipment; modern office equipment, including a computer and applicable software; methods and techniques for record keeping and report preparation and writing; proper English, spelling and grammar; occupational hazards and standard safety practices.

Ability to:

Inspect and analyze a variety of buildings and properties and identify code violations; appropriately apply codes and regulations to varying situations; effectively deal with angry and non-cooperative people; read and interpret maps, sketches, drawings, specifications and technical manuals; perform mathematical calculations quickly and accurately; learn more complex principles, practices, techniques and regulations pertaining to assigned duties; facilitate appropriate corrective action from property owners regarding violations; implement, explain and apply applicable laws, codes and regulations; read, interpret and record data accurately; organize, prioritize and follow-up on work assignments; work independently and as part of a team; make sound decisions within established guidelines; analyze a complex issue, and develop and implement an appropriate response; follow written and oral directions; observe safety principles and work in a safe manner; communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing; establish and maintain effective working relationships.

Skill to:

Operate an office computer and a variety of word processing and software applications.