

CITY OF WAPATO

POLICE OFFICER

NATURE OF POSITION:

The City of Wapato requires that employees occupying the position of Police Officer be responsible for performing law enforcement, investigation and crime prevention. Assignments may include conducting pre- and post-arrest investigations of crime, crime scene photography, traffic investigations and crime prevention activities. New employees are required to successfully complete a one year probationary period and successfully complete the Washington State Basic Law Enforcement Academy. Involves working with a culturally diverse, non-English (Spanish) speaking population.

DUTIES AND EXAMPLES OF WORK:

Police Officer job functions shall include, but are not limited to:

1. Patrolling the City to enforce City ordinances and applicable State and Federal laws.
2. Effect an arrest, forcibly if necessary, using handcuffs and other restraints; subdue resisting suspects using maneuvers and weapons and resort to the use of hands and feet and other approved weapons in self-defense.
3. Prepare investigative and other reports, including sketches, using appropriate grammar, symbols and mathematical computations that may be presented before a court of law.
4. Responds in a vehicle or on foot to calls for service.
5. Exercise independent judgment in determining when there is reasonable suspicion to detain, when probable cause exists to search and arrest, and when force may be used and to what degree.
6. Operate a law enforcement vehicle during the day and night; in emergency situations involving speeds in excess of posted limits, in congested traffic and in unsafe road conditions caused by factors such as fog, smoke, rain, ice, and snow.
7. Communicate effectively and coherently over law enforcement radio channels while initiating and responding to radio communications.

8. Gather information in criminal investigations by interviewing and obtaining the statements of victims, witnesses, suspects and confidential informers. Often includes dealing with non-English (Spanish) speaking citizens.
9. Pursue fleeing suspects and perform rescue operations which may involve quickly entering and exiting law enforcement patrol vehicles; lifting, carrying and dragging heavy objects; climbing over and pulling oneself over obstacles; jumping down from elevated surfaces; climbing through openings; jumping over obstacles, ditches and streams; crawling in confined areas; balancing on uneven or narrow surfaces and using body force to gain entrance through barriers.
10. Load, unload, aim and fire from a variety of body positions handguns, shotguns and other agency firearms under conditions of stress that justify the use of deadly force and at levels of proficiency prescribed by Departmental and State standards.
11. Perform searches of people, vehicles, buildings and large outdoor areas which may involve feeling and detecting objects, walking for long periods of time, detaining people and stopping suspicious vehicles and persons.
12. Conduct visual and audio surveillance for extended periods of time.
13. Engage in law enforcement patrol functions that include such things as working rotating shifts, weekends, nights and holidays, walking on foot patrol and physically checking the doors and windows of buildings to ensure they are secure.
14. Effectively communicate with people, including juveniles, mentally deranged, confused or intoxicated, by giving information and directions, mediating disputes and advising of rights and processes.
15. Demonstrate communication skills in court and at other formal settings, i.e. civic groups, schools, churches and public functions.
16. Detect and collect evidence and substances that provide the basis of criminal offenses and infractions and that indicate the presence of dangerous conditions.
17. Endure verbal and mental abuse when confronted with the hostile views and opinions of suspects and other people encountered in an antagonistic environment.

18. Perform rescue functions at accidents, emergencies and disasters to include directing traffic for long periods of time, administering emergency medical aid, including CPR, lifting, dragging and carrying people away from dangerous situations and securing and evacuating people from particular areas.
19. Process and transport prisoners and committed mental patients using handcuffs and other appropriate restraints.
20. Put on and operate a gas mask in situations where chemical munitions are being deployed.
21. Extinguish small fires by using a fire extinguisher and other appropriate means.
22. Read and comprehend legal and non-legal documents, including the preparation and processing of such documents as citations, affidavits and warrants.
23. Process arrested suspects to include taking their photographs and obtaining a legible set of inked fingerprint impressions.
24. Providing assistance to other City, State, Federal and County agencies, as requested.
25. Performing related duties as required.

NOTE: The successful applicant must be able to perform ALL of the above essential job functions of a law enforcement officer, unassisted, and at a pace and level of performance consistent with the actual job performance requirements. This requires a high level of physical ability to include vision, hearing, speaking, flexibility and strength.

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Since law enforcement officers are required to enforce the law and they are exposed to certain temptations to show favoritism, corruption, or unlawful monetary gain, it is a “business necessity” that officers exhibit a history and characteristics of honesty, reliability, ability to manage personal finances, interpersonal skill, and integrity.

Additionally, law enforcement officers are frequently placed in a position of physical and mental stress. Therefore, a history of mental or physical disability may be grounds for denying employment; or, these factors might be a consideration in the hiring process. Applicants posing a substantial risk of injury to themselves, other officers, and the public are at a substantial disadvantage in the hiring process.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Minimum qualifications for the position of Police Officer shall include:

1. Being at least 21 years of age, at least six months prior to hire date.
2. Holding a High School diploma or a GED equivalent.
3. Possession of a valid Washington State driver's license.
4. U.S. citizenship.
5. Ability to pass a rigid medical examination which includes pre-placement polygraph, drug screening and psychological examinations.
6. Ability to prepare and effectively present oral and written communications in English.
7. A criminal record or record of traffic violations may be disqualifying.
8. Must have a good credit rating.
9. The use of any hallucinogen will be disqualifying. Usage of any other drugs within the past 24 months will also be disqualifying.
10. A history of alcohol abuse may be disqualifying.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

None at this time

HIGHLY DESIRED QUALITIES:

1. Bilingual (Spanish speaking) highly desired.
2. 20 minute response time from home to Wapato Police Department.