

RUTHERFORD COUNTY, TENNESSEE CLASSIFICATION SPECIFICATION

CLASSIFICATION TITLE:	COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER I
FLSA STATUS:	NON-EXEMPT
SAFETY SENSITIVE:	SUBJECT TO RANDOM DRUG AND BREATH ALCHOL TESTING

PURPOSE OF CLASSIFICATION

The purpose of this classification is to receive/process requests for emergency/non-emergency assistance and to Emergency Responders. Duties and responsibilities include receiving and prioritizing emergency calls, dispatching appropriate law enforcement, emergency personnel, serving as liaison between callers and emergency responders; operating computers and communication equipment, preparing documentation, maintaining records, and performing additional tasks as assigned. Sheriff's Department assignment reports to Corporal of Communications.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

The following duties are normal for this position. The omission of specific statements of the duties does not exclude them from the classification if the work is similar, related, or a logical assignment for this classification. Other duties may be required and assigned.

Operates communication equipment, multi-telephone lines, and computers associated with police, fire, E-911, and emergency medical communications, which may include telephone equipment, radio communications equipment, audio recorder, TTY/TDD machine, alarm panels, security monitors, general office equipment, or other equipment/systems.

Receives, screens, processes, and monitors emergency 911 calls and non-emergency calls from the public and other police/public safety agencies by radio and telephone; evaluates, categorizes, and prioritizes calls; determines proper zone/jurisdiction of request; refers callers to other agencies as appropriate; receives routine calls for the department and records messages for departmental personnel.

Dispatches appropriate agency personnel to incident locations; determines nature of emergency, location of incident, number of units needed, and nearest available units; dispatches ambulances, fire fighters, or other agencies as appropriate.

Maintains communications with all parties involved in emergency situations; monitors status/location of officers and emergency units; assists emergency personnel in locating addresses; conveys information between callers and emergency personnel, general public, public safety agencies, hospitals, businesses, alarm companies, department personnel, or other individuals/agencies; responds to requests from officers for backup, emergency units, information, or other assistance.

Operates a computer to enter, retrieve, review or modify data; verifies accuracy of entered data and makes corrections; utilizes word processing, database, spreadsheet, computer-aided dispatch (CAD), or other software programs; performs basic maintenance of computer systems, communications equipment, and general office equipment; inspects equipment for proper operations; monitors equipment alarms to identify problems; performs daily backups of computer data; clears paper jams and replaces audio tapes, paper, ink or toner; coordinates service/repair activities as needed.

Maintains logs, computer records, and hard-copy records of calls, work activities, activities of dispatched units, and related information; enters call details into computer-aided dispatch (CAD) system; prepares complaint cards to record calls of significant nature; maintains daily logs of shift events/activities; maintains current maps, bulletins, telephone lists, directories, procedures, and other reference materials, shreds/destroys sensitive documents as directed.

Rutherford County, Tennessee • Communications Officer I

Exchanges pertinent information with department personnel, other departments, and outside agencies; distributes incoming information/documentation to appropriate personnel; monitors incoming faxes and teletypes; provides information/documentation to other departments and outside agencies as requested.

Monitors radio traffic of other departments and other law enforcement, emergency, and non-emergency agencies to respond to radio calls and to maintain an awareness of activities.

Monitors weather updates; provides emergency notifications of severe weather to appropriate personnel.

Communicates with alarm companies; coordinates exchange of information between police officers, alarm companies, and key holders or contact persons.

Prepares or completes various forms, reports, correspondence, logs, lists, or other documents.

Records all information via computer, performs data entry functions by keying data into computer systems; generates computerized reports and manual reports, forms and related documentation.

Monitors inventory of department forms and supplies; ensures availability of adequate materials to conduct work activities; initiates requests for new/replacement items as needed.

Communicates effectively and coherently over radio channels while initiating and responding to radio communications.

Communicates with supervisor, employees, other departments, callers, law enforcement personnel, fire personnel, emergency medical personnel, medical facilities, federal/state/local public safety agencies, court officials, utility companies, social service agencies, government agencies, other jurisdictions, the media, the public, outside agencies, and other individuals as needed to coordinate work activities, review status of work, exchange information, or resolve problems.

Responds to questions or complaints related to department operations; provides information and assistance related to department services, classes, procedures, forms or other issues; researches problems and initiates problem resolution.

Maintains confidentiality of departmental documentation and issues.

Maintains current knowledge of applicable laws, regulations, policies, and procedures; maintains an awareness of new procedures, trends, and advances in the profession; reads professional literature; maintains professional affiliations; attends workshops and training sessions as appropriate.

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Maintains familiarity with the protocol for dangerous and extreme situations such as a natural disaster or epidemic.

Responds to requests from law enforcement personnel or other authorized individuals for information involving license plates, driver's license records, criminal history records, warrants, missing/wanted persons, location of individuals, stolen property, telephone numbers, or other information, obtains/provides background information as requested by authorized personnel.

Dispatches law enforcement units, wreckers, and utility crews; maintains communications with utility crews, and wrecker services.

Operates national or state criminal information computer systems (NCIC/TCIC) to retrieve/update criminal information and motor vehicle/license records; enters, removes, confirms, and/or updates various data; runs inquiries on data such as vehicle registrations, driver's license records, criminal histories, warrants, stolen property, or missing/wanted persons; receives BOLO notices and broadcasts/distributes as appropriate; maintains records of NCIC/TCIC validations; ensures integrity/security of data and adherence to NCIC/TCIC requirements.

Rutherford County, Tennessee • Communications Officer I

Monitors radio traffic of other departments and other law enforcement, emergency, and non-emergency agencies to respond to radio calls and to maintain an awareness of activities.

Receives various forms, reports, correspondence, logs, lists, NCIC/TCIC bulletins/reports, teletypes, criminal history reports, driver history reports, BOLO notices, validations, pawn shop slips, house checks, NCIC/TCIC guides, 911 guidelines, training materials, policies, procedures, local/jurisdictional maps, street guides, directories, reference materials, or other documentation; reviews, completes processes, forwards or retains as appropriate.

Prepares documentation for domestic abuse cases as needed.

Must work hours as scheduled.

Complete work at assigned work station as determined by supervisor.

ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS

May speak publicly to schools, civic organizations, and others in regards to the duties and responsibilities of the job.

May assist in training new employees.

Performs general/clerical tasks, which may include answering telephone calls, making copies, sending/receiving faxes, or filing documentation, or processing incoming/outgoing mail.

Performs basic cleaning/housekeeping tasks associated with maintaining office and work areas.

Provides assistance to other employees or departments as needed.

Performs other related duties as required.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Must have High School Diploma, GED or equivalent; supplemented by two (2) months previous experience and/or training involving public safety dispatching, radio communications, and personal computer operations; or any equivalent combination of education, training, and experience which provides the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities for this job. May require possession and maintenance of valid Emergency Medical Dispatcher certification, 911 Operator certification, and/or CPR/First Aid certification. Operation of national/state criminal information systems requires possession and maintenance of valid N.C.I.C., T.I.E.S., and/or N.L.E.T.S. Terminal Operator certification.

PERFORMANCE APTITUDES

Data Utilization: Requires the ability to review, classify, categorize, prioritize, and/or analyze data. Includes exercising discretion in determining data classification, and in referencing such analysis to established standards for the purpose of recognizing actual or probable interactive effects and relationships.

Human Interaction: Requires the ability to provide guidance, assistance, and/or interpretation to others regarding the application of procedures and standards to specific situations.

Equipment, Machinery, Tools, and Materials Utilization: Requires the ability to operate, maneuver and/or control the actions of equipment, machinery, tools and/or materials used in performing essential functions.

Verbal Aptitude: Requires the ability to utilize a wide variety of reference, descriptive, and/or advisory data and information.

Rutherford County, Tennessee • Communications Officer I

Mathematical Aptitude: Requires the ability to perform addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division; ability to calculate decimals and percentages; ability to utilize principles of fractions; ability to interpret graphs.

Functional Reasoning: Requires the ability to apply principles of rational systems; to interpret instructions furnished in written, oral, diagrammatic, or schedule form; and to exercise independent judgment to adopt or modify methods and standards to meet variations in assigned objectives.

Situational Reasoning: Requires the ability to exercise judgment, decisiveness and creativity in situations involving the evaluation of information against sensory, judgmental, or subjective criteria, as opposed to that which is clearly measurable or verifiable.

ADA COMPLIANCE/PHYSICAL DEMANDS ANALYSIS

Physical Ability: Tasks require the ability to exert light physical effort in sedentary to light work, but which may involve some lifting, carrying, pushing and/or pulling of objects and materials of light weight (5-10 pounds). Tasks may involve extended periods of time at a keyboard or work station.

Sensory Requirements: Some tasks require the ability to perceive and discriminate colors or shades of colors, sounds, taste, odor, depth, texture, and visual cues or signals. Some tasks require the ability to communicate orally and effectively in stressful situations. All task require the ability to hear. Employees' must have aided or unaided hearing between zero (0) and twenty-five (25) decibels for each ear at the frequencies of 500Hz, 1000Hz, 2000Hz and 3000Hz.

Environmental Factors: Essential functions are regularly performed without exposure to adverse environmental conditions.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS ANALYSIS

1. STANDING AND WALKING

Estimated Total Hours: 1-2 **Maximum Continuous Time:** 1 hour

2. SITTING

Estimated Total Hours: 6-7 **Maximum Continuous Time:** 30-45 minutes

3. LIFTING/CARRYING

Objects:

Weight	Hourly	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Never
<10 lbs		X			
11-25 lbs			X		
26-50 lbs					X
51-75 lbs					X
76-100 lbs					X
>100 lbs					X

4. BENDING/SQUATTING/KNEELING

Tasks: Pulling files

Frequency: Hourly

5. REACHING

Hands Used: RIGHT LEFT BOTH X

Distance	Direction	Frequency	Duration	Avg. Weight
0-20"	Down	Daily		< 5 lbs
21-36"	Never			

6. WORK CONDITIONS

Exposure to	Yes	No
Hot Temperatures		X
Cold Temperatures		X
Sudden Changes in Temperature		X
Noise	X	
Fumes		X
Cramped Quarters	X	
Cold Surfaces		X
Hot Surfaces		X
Sharp Edges		X
Vibration		X
Fluorescent Lighting	X	
Computer Monitor Screen Glare	X	

Inside Building	<u> 100 </u> % of time
Outside	<u> 0 </u> % of time

7. OTHER JOB DEMANDS

Does Job Require	Yes	No
Crawling		X
Jumping		X
Lying on Back		X
Lying on Stomach		X
Twisting	X	
Sweeping/Mopping	X	
General Cleaning	X	
Handling Trash	X	

8. HAND USE

Type of Use	Yes	No	Frequency
Keystrokes	X		Hourly
Grasp	X		Hourly
Fine Motor i.e: writing, twisting hands or wrist, etc	X		Hourly



Rutherford County, Tennessee, is an Equal Opportunity Employer. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the County will provide reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities and encourages both prospective and current employees to discuss potential accommodations with the employer. Signatures below indicate the receipt and review of this classification description by the employee assigned to the position and the immediate supervisor.

Employee Full Legal Name (printed)

Employee Signature

Date