



Forensic Scientist II-Latent Print Examiner Saint Paul Police Department Forensic Services Unit Position Profile



Photo courtesy of Pioneer Press



Photo courtesy of Star Tribune

The City of Saint Paul Police Department is looking to hire a Forensic Scientist II-Latent Print Examiner for the Police Department Forensic Services Unit (FSU). The Police Department is responsible for the safety, security, and quality of life for the citizens of Saint Paul. The FSU staff play a key role in providing that safety and security. The FSU provides a number of services that allow investigative and operational units to identify and/or eliminate offenders in a timely manner. The Saint Paul Police Forensic Services Unit has undergone a transformation over the past year. The lab structure is sound, the equipment state of the art, and the staff training is ongoing and of the highest quality. The focus of this Unit is on crime scene processing, photography and documentation, evidence collection, and presumptive testing. A key component of the Unit is the latent print processing and comparison section. The SPPD FSU is currently pursuing accreditation.

The successful candidate will possess the following skills:

1. Collects, analyzes, documents, and preserves evidence from crime scenes. Performs examination of physical evidence utilizing laboratory equipment, established standard operating procedures, methods, and techniques to ensure the validity and integrity of evidence. Maintains chain of custody for any evidence in possession of the scientist.
2. Processes and reconstructs crime scenes to determine the relationship among evidence.
3. Examines evidence for the presence of latent finger, foot, and palm prints; compares developed latent prints to known fingerprints. Documents the latent print development and comparison process in accordance with unit policies and procedures. Prepares scientific reports.
4. Collects fingerprint exemplars from the deceased.
5. Utilizes Photoshop, Automated Fingerprint Identification Systems, lasers, cameras, analytical balances, various chemical, and physical latent print development techniques to develop and compare latent prints.
6. Performs data analysis of evidence; determines principles, facts, and reasons indicative to cases; and evaluates examination results based on scientific data. Performs peer review of case work.

7. Prepares court testimony and testifies in court to effectively relay information and accurately communicate opinions and facts of evidentiary findings.
8. Performs and evaluates research as assigned, and in accordance with laboratory policies and procedures. Assists with the review of unit policies, procedures, and analytical methods.
9. Utilizes, maintains, cleans, and inspects laboratory equipment; maintains databases, enters and retrieves data, and creates spread sheets. Uses word processing and desktop software to evaluate, document, and analyze evidence.
10. Advises various law enforcement staff regarding crime scene and latent print evidence. Works with medical personnel as needed.
11. Occasionally operates in hazardous and/or unpredictable work conditions. May be exposed to chemical and biological hazards inside the laboratory and at crime scenes. Collects evidence in a variety of environmental conditions. Additional exposures may include high winds, rain, snow, sun, and varied temperatures. Additional exposures may be to noise, dust, dirt, vibrations, fumes, and gases.
12. Attends specialized training to obtain knowledge and remain current with scientific advancements in forensic science. Provides educational reviews and tutorials to law enforcement personnel, subordinates, colleagues and medical personnel in the collection, handling, and examination of evidence.

Education and Experience:

A Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry, Biology, Biochemistry, or a related scientific or criminal justice field. Relevant experience may be substituted for education on a year for year basis.

Must obtain and maintain a Latent Print Examiner certification through the International Association for Identification. Continued employment is contingent upon obtaining certification within 18 months of the appointment. Failure to obtain a Latent Print Examiner certification during the defined 18 month period or failure to maintain the certification during employment may result in termination as a Forensic Scientist II.

Two years of experience working within an accredited laboratory to include principles and practices of latent print development and comparison.

Must possess and maintain a valid Minnesota Class D driver's license, or equivalent out-of-state driver's license. The driver's license must have no suspensions or revocations for driving-related offenses within the two year period prior to the date of appointment. Suspensions for parking-related offenses are excluded.

Compensation and Benefits:

This is a **full-time position** within the Saint Paul Police Department. The salary range is \$59,612.80 - \$83,782.40 per year, with **starting salary dependent on experience and qualifications**. In addition, the salary is supplemented by Saint Paul's outstanding benefits package. See below, or click this [link](#) for more information.

Medical Insurance
Dental Insurance
Life Insurance
Holiday Pay
Vacation and Sick Leave
Pension
Deferred Compensation option

The Process:

To be considered for this exceptional career opportunity, please submit an online application, and answers to the Supplemental Questions at www.stpaul.gov/jobs.

Immediate opening and open until filled.

Additional information about the City of Saint Paul can be found on our website at www.stpaul.gov.