BUILDING INSPECTOR I

DEFINITION

Under general supervision, to conduct inspections of residential building structures and installations in various states of construction, alteration, and repair; to determine that construction, alterations, and repairs are in conformance with County Building Codes and ordinances; to enforce building, plumbing, mechanical and electrical ordinances and codes; to answer questions regarding code enforcement and structural requirements for the public, architects, contractors, and engineers; and to do related work as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

This is the entry and first working level in the Building Inspector class series. Incumbents perform the more routine and less complex building inspection duties in residential and mobile home areas. As an incumbent gains experience and proficiency, they are expected to acquire substantial knowledge of the Uniform Building Code, Plumbing and Mechanical Codes, the National Electrical Code and Title 25 requirements for mobile home construction. With approval from the Chief Building Official, when incumbent has passed probation and obtained ICC Building, Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing Inspector Certifications they are generally qualified for promotion to the Building Inspector II.

REPORTS TO

Building Inspector Supervisor and Chief Building Inspector

CLASSIFICATIONS DIRECTLY SUPERVISED

None

EXAMPLES OF ESSENTIAL DUTIES

- Makes field inspections of residential structures in varying states of construction, alteration, or repair
- Interprets applicable codes, ordinances, and regulations for builders and homeowners and insures compliance
- Checks the quality of materials and methods of construction for electrical, plumbing, mechanical, framework, concrete, masonry work, lathing, plastering, tile work, and roofing
- Inspects completed work, giving approval to acceptable structures and installations
- Writes correction notices for plans and works with contractors to follow-up on plan changes investigates violations of building and zoning laws
- Inspects existing buildings to determine health or safety hazards, structural failures, or the need for maintenance and repair
- Inspects mobile home installations
- Issues building permits
• Provides advice to contractors and individuals on construction procedures and practices
• May inspect construction and repair of County buildings and structures

TYPICAL PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

Sit for extended periods; frequently stand and walk; normal manual dexterity and eye-hand coordination; ability to climb, stoop, crouch and kneel; crawl through various areas requiring moving on hands and knees; walk on sloped ground and uneven surfaces; lift and move object weighing up to 25 pounds; corrected hearing and vision to normal range; verbal communication; use of office equipment including computers, telephones, calculators, copiers, and FAX.

TYPICAL WORKING CONDITIONS

Work is performed in office, outdoor, and driving environments; work is performed in varying temperatures; exposure to dust, chemicals, and gases; exposure to hazards such as moving machinery parts, electrical current; continuous contact with staff and the public.

SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES

Knowledge of:

• Practices, tools, equipment, and materials used in the general construction trades
• Accepted safety standards and methods of building construction
• Qualities of various construction materials
• Building and related codes and ordinances enforceable by the County
• California Building Codes
• State Housing Act of California
• General knowledge of County Zoning and Land Use Ordinances
• Inspection methods and techniques
• Principles of mathematics related to the building trades

Ability to:

• Perform building inspections, enforce codes and ordinances, and examine workmanship and materials
• Apply a variety of inspection methods and techniques
• Detect deviations from laws, regulations and standard construction practices
• Read, interpret and explain building plans, specifications and building codes
• Make mathematical calculations quickly and accurately
• Apply technical knowledge of building trades work
• Communicate effectively both orally and in writing
• Provide advice on standard construction methods and requirements
• Enforce regulations with firmness and tact
• Prepare clear and concise written reports
• Deal tactfully and courteously with the public
• Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships
TYPICAL PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

Sit for extended periods; frequently stand and walk; normal manual dexterity and eye-hand coordination; ability to climb, stoop, crouch and kneel; crawl through various areas requiring moving on hands and knees; walk on sloped ground and uneven surfaces; lift and move object weighing up to 25 pounds; corrected hearing and vision to normal range; verbal communication; use of office equipment including computers, telephones, calculators, copiers, and FAX.

TYPICAL WORKING CONDITIONS

Work is performed in office, outdoor, and driving environments; work is performed in varying temperatures; exposure to dust, chemicals, and gases; exposure to hazards such as moving machinery parts, electrical current; continuous contact with staff and the public.

MINIMUM EDUCATION, TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

Two (2) years of full-time building inspection experience comparable to a Building Inspector I with any jurisdiction.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

- Possession of a valid California Driver's License
- Must obtain ICC Residential Combination Building, Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing Inspector Certifications within two (2) years of employment or have a current California Building Inspector Certification.

Upon Building Official's approval, when incumbent has passed probation and obtained ICC Residential Combination, Building, Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing Inspector Certifications, a Building Inspector I will be reclassified to Building Inspector II.