

UTAH COUNTY JOB DESCRIPTION

CLASS TITLE: VICTIM ADVOCATE - SHERIFF
CLASS CODE: 5051

FLSA STATUS: NON-EXEMPT
SUPERVISORY STATUS: NONE

EFFECTIVE DATE: 4/10/2015 (REPLACES 4/2/2012 VERSION)
DEPARTMENT: SHERIFF

JOB SUMMARY

Under general supervision of the Victim Assistance Program Coordinator, assists victims of crime through the judicial process by providing information regarding the legal process, investigation process, and resources such as shelter, treatment, education, legal assistance, and financial aid. Applicants hired under some grants must be fluent in Spanish and English.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

Responds to hospitals, crime scenes, and other locations as requested by sworn Sheriff's Office personnel to assist primary and secondary victims with crisis needs and to provide emotional support; assesses victims' safety and other needs, informing them of available resources and acting as a liaison in obtaining services.

Assesses and reviews violent crime reports and ensures victims are contacted within established time frames.

Receives cases referred by Deputy Sheriffs and serves as a liaison between the victim, the referring deputy, and the attorney; educates each victim regarding the legal process and the rights afforded them under the law.

Assists victims in preparing and filing protective orders, stalking injunctions, and other legal forms.

Attends applicable court proceedings or ensures attendance of a volunteer, testifies as necessary and coordinates transportation of witnesses and/or victims and their families as needed.

Tracks case information, documents referrals and other actions, and writes reports on case progress; provides current address and phone number of victims to the Office of the County Attorney or Board of Pardons.

Collects statistical information for the Office of Crime Victim Reparations.

Coordinates with Juvenile Court, the Children's Justice Center, medical and mental health professionals, and other related persons or agencies regarding services provided to victims.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES

Knowledge of: the criminal justice process and victims' rights; community resources available to victims for shelter, treatment, education, legal assistance, and financial aid.

Skill in: reading, writing, and basic math; word processing, spreadsheets and basic computer applications; using standard office equipment; filing, record keeping and record retrieval.

Ability to: stay calm while working with people in crisis situations; communicate and interact with individuals from diverse social, economic, and ethnic backgrounds in a professional manner; maintain cooperative relationships with those contacted during the course of work activities; maintain confidentiality

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PAGE 2

of sensitive records and information; work under minimal supervision; communicate fluently in Spanish and English if hired under a grant that requires it.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS

Typically: sits at a desk or table.

Regularly: walks, stands, or stoops; works for sustained periods of time maintaining concentrated attention to detail; drives a motor vehicle.

Accommodation may be made for some of these physical demands for otherwise qualified individuals who require and request such accommodation.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Work is generally performed in an office or other environmentally controlled room, but occasionally requires field work which includes visiting crime scenes, victim's homes, hospitals, and other locations which may expose the incumbent to hostile or unknown circumstances. Incumbents are occasionally required to provide victim assistance outside of regular working hours.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

Bachelor's degree in behavioral science, psychology, sociology, or a related field. Equivalent combinations of education and experience may also be considered. Selected applicants must pass a typing test at or above the rate of 40 WPM net. Applicants hired under some grants are required to be bilingual.

Selected applicants are subject to a background check.

LICENSING AND CERTIFICATION

Applicant must possess a valid driver's license and obtain a valid State of Utah driver's license within 60 days of employment.

This description lists the major duties and requirements of the job and is not all-inclusive. Incumbent(s) may be expected to perform job-related duties other than those contained in this document and may be required to have specific job-related knowledge and skills.