



## Fire Investigator II

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**DEPARTMENT:** KCSO - Sheriff's Office  
**DIVISION:** Criminal Investigations  
**SALARY:** \$44.33 - \$56.20 Hourly  
**LOCATION:** King County Courthouse - 516 3rd Ave, Seattle  
**JOB TYPE:** Civil Service, Full Time, 40/hrs Wk  
**CLOSING DATE:** 03/01/23 11:59 PM

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### SUMMARY:

**WHO MAY APPLY:** This position is open to the public



Become part of the [King County Sheriff's Office Fire Investigator team!](#)  
**On average we investigate over 400 accidental and criminal fires annually**

**Working with us provides the broadest range of fire investigations allowing you to experience variety every day and hone your skills to be a leader in the industry.**



### JOB DUTIES:

**As a Fire Investigator, you will be doing full-cycle fire investigations which include:**

- Investigating the origin and cause of fires
- Interviewing witnesses and suspects and conducting follow-up investigations including detection, apprehension and prosecution of arson suspects
- Providing expert testimony in court for both criminal and civil cases

Preparing extensive detailed written reports systematically documenting the cause of a fire (when possible) in all cases that are investigated by the FIU and preparing reports and statistics for owners, fire departments and other agencies.

Fire Investigators will conduct the fire investigation to determine the origin, cause, extent, and responsibility of the fire as required by the Revised Code of Washington. If the fire is determined to be a criminal act or if other crimes are identified during the fire investigation, the fire investigator shall, assist other agencies to include; the King County Sheriffs Office in conducting the criminal investigation. Assistance may be in the form of but not limited to, [crime scene documentation, conduct interrogations, collection of evidence, conduct the follow up investigation, attend/assist/collect evidence at the autopsy of fire victims, coordinate/conduct the arrest, and testify in court].

This position is a full-time investigator to be permanently assigned to the Fire Investigation Unit (FIU).

Fire investigators are expected to work in a wide variety of physically challenging and hazardous environments.

Fire Investigators will have opportunities to develop an area of specialization and advanced training/certification in fire/arson investigations.

## **EXPERIENCE, QUALIFICATIONS, KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS:**

### **To do this job well you will need to already have:**

- The ability to write detailed reports, systematically documenting evidence, and investigative steps in a thorough and professional manner
- High interpersonal skills in working with a variety of individuals from diverse backgrounds in high stress situations
- Skill in handling multiple competing priorities within tight timelines; agility in addressing urgent matters
- Basic skill in using MS Word, Excel and current database software; must be comfortable and proficient with computer use to perform functions associated with on-going work

### **Additionally, you will need to already have or be able to quickly learn and apply:**

- Principles and techniques of fire and/or arson investigations
- Demonstrated/documented history of law enforcement and criminal investigations.
- Fire investigation principles, methodologies and techniques; principles of fire science and fire behavior; laws and legal ramifications of fire and criminal investigations; fire and building codes including: National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 921 - Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigations and NFPA 1033 – Standard for Professional Fire Investigator

### **We highly encourage your application if you have:**

- A law enforcement commission with significant (non-fire) investigation experience
- Experience performing fire investigations
- A fire investigator certification recognized by the State of Washington (IFSAC, IAAI, NAFI)

## **NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:**

- Candidate must have a Washington State driver's license or be able to obtain one
- Candidate must successfully complete the approved Law Enforcement and Fire Investigation Training.
- The ability to work irregular hours which may include evenings and weekends, in the outdoors under unfavorable weather and site conditions
- The ability to handle strenuous physical tasks such as digging, lifting and climbing
- The ability to handle physical and emotional stresses including investigations with victim

suffering and/or serious/fatal injuries

**REQUIRED TO APPLY:**

- Online application
- Letter of interest, expressing your background and experience, specifically your investigation experience..

NOTE: Email is the primary form of notification during the recruitment process. Candidates will be notified regarding their status as the recruitment proceeds via email through the [GovernmentJobs.com](http://GovernmentJobs.com) site. Please check your email folders, including spam/junk folders.

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:**

**TIMEFRAME:** The timeframe and order of this recruitment is provided below.

- Oral Board Examination will be held in late March

**UNION MEMBERSHIP:** This position is represented by the Public Safety Employees Union (PSEU) and therefore may require union dues.

**WORK SCHEDULE:** This position is overtime eligible with prior approval. The regular work hours are 40 hours per week, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday. This position will be working in rotation for 24-72 hour shifts on call. While on-call, the Investigator will be able to respond and conduct fire investigations anywhere in the county as needed. On-call status is a paid status.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** If you have questions regarding this recruitment please contact: Michelle Kobuki , HR Analyst, Civil Service Administration  
[michelle.kobuki@KingCounty.gov](mailto:michelle.kobuki@KingCounty.gov)  
206-477-4740

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:**

**Forbes recently named King County as one of Washington State's best employers.**

**Together, with leadership and our employees, we're changing the way government delivers service and winning national recognition as a model of excellence. Are you ready to make a difference? [Come join the team](#) dedicated to serving one of the nation's best places to live, work and play.**

Guided by our ["True North"](#), we are making King County a welcoming community where every person can thrive. We value diversity, inclusion and belonging in our workplace and workforce. To reach this goal we are committed to workforce equity. Equitable recruiting, support, and retention is how we will obtain the highest quality workforce in our region; a workforce that shares and will help advance our guiding principles--we are one team; we solve problems; we focus on the customer; we drive for results; we are racially just; we respect all people; we lead the way; and we are responsible stewards. We encourage people of all backgrounds and identities to apply, including Native American and people of color, immigrants, refugees, women, LGBTQ+, people living with disabilities, and veterans.

**King County is an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Employer**

No person is unlawfully excluded from employment opportunities based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex (including gender identity, sexual orientation and pregnancy), age, genetic information, disability, veteran status, or other protected class. Our EEO policy applies to all

employment actions, including but not limited to recruitment, hiring, selection for training, promotion, transfer, demotion, layoff, termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation.

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APPLICATIONS MAY BE FILED ONLINE AT:  
<http://www.kingcounty.gov/>

Job #2022MK17408  
FIRE INVESTIGATOR II  
MK

King County Administration Bldg.  
500 4th Ave. Rm. 553  
Seattle, WA 98104  
206-477-3404

[michelle.kobuki@kingcounty.gov](mailto:michelle.kobuki@kingcounty.gov)

An Equal Opportunity Employer

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### Fire Investigator II Supplemental Questionnaire

- \* 1. The King County Sheriff's Office maintains a list of automatic disqualifiers for employment. This list can be accessed by clicking on this link [Automatic Disqualifiers](#). Please review the disqualifiers and respond to the following question before proceeding. **Do you certify that based on your review of the automatic disqualifiers that you are qualified for employment with the King County Sheriff's Office?** Note - This information will be verified prior to scheduling an oral board interview.
- Yes  
 No
- \* 2. *The background of all King County Sheriff's Office employees and applicants are thoroughly checked.* The required **background investigation** will review and evaluate driving records, criminal records, criminal behavior, employment histories, military records, personal and employment references, and related information. Candidates who pass the initial background investigation will be required to complete a polygraph, medical and psychological exam. **Are you willing to undergo a background investigation and polygraph and psychological examination as part of the employment process?**
- Yes    No
- \* 3. Do you meet any of the automatic disqualifiers pertaining to **DRUGS**: •As an adult, convicted of any felony drug crime •Any use of heroin or methamphetamines •Any possession or use of GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyrate) or any other "date rape" drug (includes, but not limited to; Ketamine or Rohypnol), including giving it to others •Any use of illegal drugs within three (3) years of application (other than juvenile or one-time experimentation). Illegal drugs include but are not limited to; cocaine, ecstasy, molly, MDMA (club drugs), spice, mushrooms, or Khat, or illegal use of prescription drugs (including steroids). •Illegal use of four (4) or more different controlled substances as an adult within the past ten (10) years •Any instance of manufacturing or cultivating illegal drugs for the purpose of sale or distribution •Use of any illegal drugs while employed in a criminal justice capacity •Obtaining a prescription under false pretenses •Any instance of illegally using a drug after applying to any Law Enforcement agency •Marijuana use will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis; however, to increase the likelihood of continuing in the hiring and background process, an applicant should not have used marijuana in the last 12 months
- Yes    No

- \* 4. Do you meet any of the automatic disqualifiers pertaining to **DRIVING**: •Conviction of Driving/Physical Control Under the Influence within the last three (3) years •Conviction of Driving/Physical Control Under the Influence more than once will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis •As an adult, conviction of Attempting to Elude, or Hit and Run •As an adult, conviction of Reckless or Negligent Driving 1st degree in the last three (3) years •Driving While License Suspended/Revoked, convictions are reviewed on a case-by-case basis

Yes  No

- \* 5. Do you meet any of the automatic disqualifiers pertaining to **CRIMINAL ACTIVITY**:  
•Any adult felony convictions •Any adult misdemeanor conviction for crimes involving theft, violence, or crimes of dishonesty (including, but not limited to, perjury, forgery, impersonation, bribery, witness intimidation/tampering, or tampering with evidence)  
•All other misdemeanor convictions as an adult within the last three (3) years •Any conviction for a sex-related crime, including crimes involving a minor or individual with a disability, including pornography •Any instance of required registration as a sex offender, regardless of conviction status •Any conviction for animal cruelty as defined by RCW 16.52.205 •Any conviction for a violation of a court No-Contact, Protection, or Harassment Order •Any candidate currently named as a Respondent in any No-Contact, Protection, or Harassment DV Order

Yes  No

- \* 6. Do you meet any of the automatic disqualifiers pertaining to **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**:  
Any conviction for any crime classified as a Domestic Violence offense

\* Required Question