

Senior Park Ranger
Bargaining Unit: 3
Salary Range: 65.3 (\$5,934-\$7,092 /mo.)

Definition:

Under direction, performs duties necessary to protect park patrons, resources and properties administered by the Kern County Sheriff's Office; serving as a lead to lower levels; training new employees. Incumbents are peace officers with limited powers under California Penal Code Section 830.31(b).

This position is used as a field investigator and in specialty assignments. Incumbents also provide operational supervision to a section or area of assignment in the absence of the shift supervisor. Incumbents are expected to effectively and independently deal with a full range of law enforcement situations, including large crowds, and be able to enforce all laws and regulations within the area of assignment. Incumbents practice community-oriented policing by interacting and collaborating with the public to identify issues and develop solutions to detect, prevent and investigate crime. Employees in this classification will be required to work evenings, nights, weekends and holidays. Vacations may be limited to low recreational usage months. This position shall require incumbents to carry a firearm, pepper spray or other controlling device with proper training (baton, taser, etc.)

Essential Functions:

- Serves as a lead, which may include assigning and monitoring work, training employees on work methods, and providing direction.
- Makes periodic patrols of assigned areas, by foot, bicycle or in a motorized vehicle or vessel.
- Practices community-oriented policing and conflict de-escalation.
- Meets the public and provides information in order to foster an understanding of state, federal, local laws, and park rules and regulations.
- Responds to situations, including emergencies, involving public safety and the protection of property; including the administration of first aid prior to arrival of other agencies.
- Communicates clearly with dispatcher to provide information regarding crimes and public safety concerns.
- Oversees daily activities of assigned personnel in the care of park or recreational facilities.
- Maintains proficiency and operates various land and water law enforcement and safety-related equipment; and coordinates the maintenance, repair and replacement of assigned equipment.
- Attends advanced training courses.
- Maintains records and completes reports of actions taken.
- Issues citations for violations and makes arrests or detains subjects when necessary; transports of suspect(s) and completes required reports, and/or handles evidence.

- Conducts advanced investigations on crimes that occur within Kern County Parks and county properties, utilizing state, federal and local laws; provides court testimony, as required.
- Maintains a working knowledge of county policies and procedures, case law, and other law enforcement literature.
- Collects various park fees and makes deposits.
- Functions as a Field Training Officer (FTO) for new hires.
- May attend meetings and other public functions to provide an understanding of park resources and uses.
- May collect data and provide input for park improvement programs.
- Provide security to assigned county buildings, which may include training and operation of magnetometers and x-ray equipment.
- Performs other related duties as required.

Employment Standards:

High School Diploma, G.E.D. or equivalent, and one (1) year of experience equivalent to a Park Ranger in the Kern County classification system.

OR

One (1) year full-time experience with another law enforcement agency in California as a certified Peace Officer, and must possess POST certified course certificates for PC 832 ‘Arrest, Search and Seizure’ and ‘Arrest & Firearms’.

Experience must have been completed within three (3) years preceding appointment. Possession of a valid California Class C Drivers License at time of appointment, Standard First Aid and CPR Certificates.

In accordance with Government Code Section 1031 to be appointed as a peace officer in California, incumbents must be legally authorized to work in the United States under federal law.

Physical and Psychological Requirements: Applicants must be found to be free from any physical, emotional, or mental condition including bias against race or ethnicity, gender, nationality, religion, disability, or sexual orientation, that might adversely affect the exercise of the powers of a peace officer.

Physical Exam: Passing of a rigid medical exam by a County physician is required.

Vision: 20/100 uncorrected in each eye, correctable to 20/20. No color deficiency or permanent/progressive eye abnormalities.

Hearing: No hearing deficiency.

Previous Title: Park Ranger II
Revised Classification
September 2024
Item Number: 5246

Character: Applicants must have a reputation for honesty and trustworthiness and be of good moral character, as determined by a thorough background investigation. Felony law violations will be disqualifying, and except for a limited number of minor traffic offenses, misdemeanor offenses may also be disqualifying. Appointees will be fingerprinted and required to pass an extensive background investigation.

Psychological Examination: Emotional and mental conditions shall be evaluated by a psychologist that meets the applicable education and training requirements as set forth by the Commission of Peace Officer Standards and Training. Evaluation is designed for the conduct of pre-employment psychological screening of peace officers.

Knowledge of: Federal, State, and County codes and ordinances related to safety and law enforcement; modern approved principles and procedures of law enforcement work; principles of community oriented policing; handling both water and land patrol vehicles; operation of law enforcement and safety equipment; safety and general law enforcement practices; courtroom procedures for testimony; general supervision techniques; collecting, receipting and accounting for money.

Ability to: Establish and maintain effective working relationships with employees, the public and other agencies; handle complex criminal investigations; think and react quickly and adapt an effective course of action; operate law enforcement and safety equipment; understand and follow oral and written directions; read, interpret and understand state and federal laws and County ordinances; keep precise records and write citations; write clear, grammatically correct and concise reports; and perform general mathematical calculations.

Supplemental:

A background check, medical and psychological exam will ~~may~~ be conducted for this classification prior to appointment.

All Kern County employees are designated "Disaster Service Workers" through state and local laws (CA Government Code Sec. 3100-3109 and Ordinance Code Title 2-Administration, Ch. 2.66 Emergency Services). As Disaster Service Workers, all County employees are expected to remain at work, or to report for work as soon as practicable following a significant emergency or disaster.