

**CLASS SPECIFICATION**  
**SAN DIEGO CITY CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**CRIMINALIST III - 1814**

**DEFINITION:**

Under direction, to perform a wide variety of the most complex criminalistics work in a number of complex specialty areas in the Police Crime Laboratory, such as forensic DNA, firearms examination, trace evidence analysis, forensic chemistry, forensic technology, and narcotics analysis; to lead the work of professional laboratory personnel conducting analyses and comparisons in specialty areas; and to perform related work.

**\* EXAMPLES OF DUTIES:**

- Reviews, revises, approves, and proposes new technical criminalistics policies and procedures in compliance with laboratory procedures and accreditation standards;
- Trains professional laboratory personnel in analyses and comparisons;
- Reviews and approves method validation;
- Recommends and reviews new technical equipment and supplies;
- Prepares validation reports and keeps records;
- Reviews analyses and comparisons for technical accuracy;
- Serves as a technical reference regarding analyses and comparisons for respective forensic discipline and helps resolve technical issues;
- Conducts crime scene reconstructions;
- Reviews proficiency tests completed by professional laboratory personnel;
- Conducts the most complex criminalistics analyses and comparisons;
- Prepares evidence for presentation in court and testifies as an expert witness;
- Leads technical briefings;
- Helps ensure compliance with technical policies and procedures;
- Troubleshoots and resolves equipment issues.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

Please note: the minimum qualifications stated below are a guide for determining the education, training, experience, special skills, and/or license which may be required for employment in the class. These are re-evaluated each time the position is opened for recruitment. Please refer to the most recent Job Announcement for updated minimum qualifications.

College graduation with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminalistics, Forensic Science, Biochemistry, Chemistry, Biology, Microbiology, Digital Forensics, Computer Forensics, Computer Science, or a closely related physical or biological science; **AND** three years of full-time professional criminalistics experience in firearms identification, forensic biology, crime scene reconstruction, narcotics analysis, blood alcohol analysis, trace evidence analysis, toxicological analysis, digital forensics, or computer forensics.

- \* EXAMPLES OF DUTIES performed by employees in this class. The list may not include all required duties, nor are all listed tasks necessarily performed by everyone in this class.**