



Virginia Beach Department of Emergency Medical Services



## JOB DESCRIPTION

# EMS BEACH LIFEGUARD SUPERVISOR

### Summary Position Description

The Beach Lifeguard Supervisor will actively patrol the assigned beach areas and coordinate/oversee a team of lifeguards to ensure ocean and beach safety, high quality proactive and reactive ocean rescue skills, preventative actions and customer service functions. In addition to providing experienced ocean and beach surveillance, rescue and EMS functions the Beach Lifeguard Supervisor will work with the assigned captain to control resource allocations and coordinate activities in accordance with EMS plans and policy. The Supervisor will answer citizen's questions and concerns, provide patient care services according to protocol under general supervision and competently performs related duties in accordance with United States Lifesaving Service Association's (USLA) best practices.

### Critical Elements of Performance

The Beach Lifeguard Supervisor will exercise tact, fitness, and good judgment in performance of duties. Has comprehensive knowledge of the policies, procedures and methods of proactive and reactive ocean safety, lifeguarding, EMS and customer service. Monitors weather, surf, and ocean conditions within assigned area and makes adjustments to daily plan accordingly. Coordinates the daily activities of and monitors, trains and mentors a team of lifeguards. Safely operates approved beach and ocean EMS vehicles and equipment and ensures their proper working condition. Comprehends the City and Department structure and ensures policies and procedures are adhered to. Demonstrates comprehensive understanding of the City's beach ordinances, laws and regulations and communications of same to lifeguards and general public. Demonstrates comprehensive understanding of and skills in approved water rescue methods, ocean swimming, lifesaving and EMS care. Ability to maintain control and assume command under stressful situations. Demonstrated ability to develop and maintain effective communications and relationships with all departments and agencies involved in the activities of the job. Familiarity with the beach area assigned and understanding in the varying level of competency that

beachgoers have with the ocean waters. Ability to perform duties necessary to promote the safety and welfare of the general public. Ability to react quickly and

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calmly in dangerous and emergency situations. Ability to use independent judgment and discretion as necessary in the performance of routine and non-routine activities. Accuracy in telecommunications and EMS radio equipment operations.

### **Performance Standards**

Maintains control of and takes command of beach rescue scenes. Maintains high standards of subordinate's activities through training, exercises, mentoring and evaluation. Exercises immediate actions to identify, communicate and correct any unsafe condition that occurs in areas of responsibility; reporting and documenting such to the assigned captain. Fosters and maintains high quality communication and interface with all City departments and divisions, co-workers and the general public. Educates lifeguards and the public on City beach ordinances and safe beach and ocean practices. Arrives at work at scheduled locations and times prescribed ready to perform duties and adheres to City and Department policies. Maintains an enthusiastic, self-reliant and self-starting approach to meet job responsibilities and accountabilities. Accepts management plans and effects direction to achieve the goals and objectives of same. Contributes to maintaining high morale among all employees. Tactfully and effectively handles requests, suggestions and complaints in order to establish and maintain good-will. The Beach Lifeguard Supervisor demonstrates a positive image, competence and regard to the general public and employees.

### **Knowledge-Skills-Abilities Required to Perform Satisfactorily**

#### A. Knowledge

1. Comprehensive knowledge of beach lifeguard services
2. Comprehensive knowledge of laws, regulations, and ordinances pertaining to beach regulations
3. Comprehensive knowledge of ocean rescue techniques
4. Comprehensive knowledge of local EMS system

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5. Comprehensive knowledge of the City's beach and ocean topography and areas
6. Knowledge of techniques used in classroom instruction and delivery of programs
7. Comprehensive knowledge of City and Department policies and procedures
8. Knowledge of effective supervisory and coaching models and techniques

**B. Skills**

1. Skilled in performing duties required of an USLA certified lifeguard
2. Skilled in the use of tools and adjuncts associated with ocean lifeguard/rescue responses
3. Skilled in the accurate check-off and maintenance of assigned equipment
4. Skilled in ocean swimming techniques and rescue techniques
5. Skilled in the accurate completion of written reports and forms
6. Skilled in working well with people in a variety of situations
7. Skilled in working with career and volunteer emergency personnel
8. Skilled in using independent judgment in making emergency rescue decisions
9. Skilled in performing duties of a Virginia certified EMT-Basic
10. Skilled in safely operating light duty emergency vehicles, ATVs, PWC and trailers

### C. Abilities

1. Ability to work well with others; including during high stress events
2. Ability to establish and maintain cooperative relationships
3. Ability to work with and support emergency personnel in the accomplishment of their mission
4. Ability to work in stressful situations
5. Ability to follow oral and written orders
6. Ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing
7. Ability to design and effect training programs and drills
8. Ability to lift 50 or more pounds
9. Ability to work in extreme weather environments
10. Ability to effectively utilize the lifeguard, rescue and medical equipment provided
11. Ability to perform the duties of a Beach Lifeguard Supervisor
12. Ability to lead, coach and train staff
13. Ability to swim 500 meters in under 10 minutes

### **Minimum Qualifications**

18 years of age or older

Valid Virginia or North Carolina driver's license

HS diploma or GED

2 summers documented experience in ocean lifeguarding

Current CPR certification meeting the AHA standard of BLS Healthcare Provider

Current first aid meeting the ARC First Aid

Current Virginia EMT-Basic certification

Completion of an EVOC program

Completion of a Virginia approved boating education safety course

Current ARC Lifeguard certification or equivalent

Must successfully pass pre employment endurance and USLA skills testing

**Preferences**

Experience in EMS

**Originated**  
09/13/2004

**Revised**  
9/20/2018