

**COMPETENCY MODEL FOR
PRINCIPAL PROPERTY OFFICER (2017)
CLASS CODE 3210**

The following competencies have been identified as those that best separate superior from satisfactory job performance in the class of **PRINCIPAL PROPERTY OFFICER**. (Numbers refers to the order of competencies in the Competency Bank.)

- 3. Judgment & Decision Making
- 20. Job Knowledge
- 21. Technology Application
- 28. Supervision
- 35. Teamwork
- 45. Oral Communication
- 47. Written Communication
- 59. Strategic Planning

On the following pages are descriptions of each competency, including a definition, the level of the competency required for the class (*italicized*, **bolded**, and underlined), examples of behavioral indicators, and satisfactory and superior performance levels.

3. JUDGMENT AND DECISION MAKING – Accurately assesses situations, seeks new information if necessary, and applies all available information to reach sound conclusions/formulate effective response.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

- Level 1: Training and guidelines needed to respond to immediate situations within very specific function are provided (or supervisor available to assist).
- Level 2: General information and guidance to assist in responding to a variety of situations across a range of circumstances are provided.
- Level 3: Little guidance available for responding to a wide range of complex situations with far-reaching and/or enduring consequences.**

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Effectively responds to atypical situations.
- Asks questions or otherwise obtains additional relevant information to make a decision.
- Formulates a decision and necessary actions based on available facts.
- Correctly infers appropriate response based on information provided and existing policies, personal experience, and/or consultation with others.
- Discusses conclusions/possible responses with others before taking action as necessary.
- Considers impact of decisions on all affected parties.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Correctly assesses routine and unusual situations and reaches appropriate conclusions for actions needed. Obtains additional information and/or consults with others as necessary.

Superior

Evaluates new situations accurately to establish an appropriate response or plan of action. Recognizes the impact on all affected parties, as well as the possible ramifications and/or repercussions of setting a precedent.

20. JOB KNOWLEDGE – Knows information required to perform a specific job. Includes both widely available courses of study (for example, chemistry, human resources management, graphic arts) and City-specific information (parking regulation and ticketing practices; purchasing procedures; provisions of the City Charter).

Level of Competency Required by Job:

- Level 1: Knowledge is concrete, factual, and/or procedural and may be defined by the organization. Situations in which it is applied are quite consistent.
- Level 2: Knowledge is substantive and may be defined by an external trade, field, or profession. Situations in which it is applied vary and, as such, require breadth and depth of understanding.
- Level 3: Knowledge is abstract, conceptual, and/or complex and may be supported by a well-defined academic discipline or authoritative sources (e.g., laws, ordinances, government guidelines/regulations/ codes). Situations in which it is applied may vary greatly or be novel.**

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Performs work correctly/avoids technical (job content related) errors.
- Answers technical questions about work accurately.
- Asks few technical questions about the performance of routine work activities.
- Offers advice (“coaching”) to new employees regarding their work.
- Develops training programs for other employees.
- Sought out as a source of information by others.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Sufficient job knowledge to perform work correctly independently. Answers technical questions about work correctly.

Superior

Expertise in technical job information sufficient to serve as a resource to others. May develop training manuals/ programs and/or give internal and/or external presentations related to work.

Principal Property Officer
Job Knowledge Areas

1. Knowledge of Department and Property Division policies and procedures, (e.g. Property Division and LAPD Manuals) for storing, tracing, and releasing property to rightful owners, and signing out/in evidence to and from investigative personnel for analysis, investigation, or for court purposes in order to ensure proper chain of custody.
2. Knowledge of major content areas of federal, state and municipal codes such as the Federal Code of Regulations, the Penal Code, City of Los Angeles Municipal Code, City Charter and State Health and Safety Code at a level sufficient to be able to reference appropriate sections and find information as needed.
3. Knowledge of Property Division and Police Department terminology [e.g. deployment period (DP), unable to locate (UTL), Records Management System (RMS), Authorization for Release (AR) and Authorization for Disposal, (AD)] used in reference to property, evidence, crimes, rules, regulations, and procedures sufficient to know their meaning and use them correctly.
4. Extensive knowledge of the use and operation of the Property Division Automated Property Information Management System (APIMS) and proficient knowledge in office software, and Department, City, County, and State systems in order to input and retrieve information from a database or to create documents.
5. Knowledge of basic accounting practices, such as reconciliation, accounts receivable, balance sheet and account payables, sufficient to conduct audits of large sums of cash booked into evidence and to recognize and reconcile discrepancies in cash records and the results of audits.
6. Knowledge of the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding for the Property Officer classification series, including recognition of staff accomplishments, disciplinary procedures, labor relations principles, performance appraisal, employee counseling, motivation, and the proper procedure for receiving, discussing, investigating, and responding to employee grievances in order to effectively manage others.
7. Knowledge of the narcotics and firearms destruction programs in order to plan, direct and coordinate activities according to policies and procedures.
8. Knowledge of the supply acquisition procedures such as funding sources for necessary operating supplies or supplies utilized for booking evidence in order to ensure continuity of service.

21. TECHNOLOGY APPLICATION – Correctly applies technology as required on the job; conceptualizes improvements in work through introducing and/or enhancing use of technology.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

- Level 1:** **Expert in the use of technology required for own job. May identify additional applications for currently used technology to enhance own work and/or work of others.**
- Level 2: Identify additional technology to be applied to improve own work and/or work of others and/or enhanced use of current technology to improve the operations of an entire function or department.
- Level 3: Identify new technology application to improve/enhance work of an entire function, department, or organization.

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Demonstrates mastery of technical applications required for current work.
- Suggests additional applications of existing technology that improve productivity.
- Identifies new technology that can be applied to improve existing operations.
- Provides convincing justification for investment in new technology versus anticipated benefits.
- Presents compelling arguments to justify purchase of existing software (with or without modification) versus in-house development.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Knows and correctly applies current technology as required on the job. Extends use of current technology to improve efficiency of accomplishing additional tasks.

Superior

Recognizes opportunities to apply technology to improve work processes in a function, department, or the entire organization. Identifies and justifies specific technology for specific uses.

28. SUPERVISION – Ability to assume direct responsibility for all aspects of the performance of a work group, which requires knowledge and/or ability in the areas of:

- Planning and goal setting
- Creating a safe and positive work environment
- Establishing standards and training employees
- Motivating employees and teambuilding
- Performance Management (assigning, monitoring, facilitating, reviewing and evaluating work, and providing feedback)
- Supporting and developing employees through delegation and participation
- Taking disciplinary action including progressive discipline
- Provisions of employees' MOU's and handling grievances
- Legal requirements including EEO, ADA, FLSA, FMLA, and Workers' Compensation provisions
- Civil Service Commission Rules and Policies related to the management of employees
- Administrative Code provisions related to the management of employees
- Budget processes sufficient to request and justify expenditures in a correct and timely manner

Level of Competency Required by Job:

- Level 1: Supervises small workgroup of employees performing the same or highly related work.
- Level 2: Supervises a larger workgroup of employees performing various types of work.
- Level 3: Supervises employees including provision of coaching and advice to subordinate supervisors.**

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Plans, assigns, and monitors work progress.
- Trains employees to do work.
- Evaluates work and gives positive and negative feedback.
- Displays knowledge of legal requirements including applicable Federal and State laws, Administrative Code provisions, Civil Service Commission Rules and Policies, and MOU provisions.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Proficiency in supervision sufficient to supervise a workgroup in terms of task orientation, interpersonal concerns, and personnel administration.

Superior

Proficiency in supervision sufficient to serve as a resource to others and/or represent department position in a public forum.

35. TEAMWORK – Interacts effectively with others to achieve mutual objectives; readily offers assistance to others to facilitate their goal accomplishment.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

- Level 1: Work effectively as a member of a work unit or project team. Readily offer assistance to others when they have too much work or have too little.
- Level 2: Work effectively as a team member in which different people have different roles/responsibilities and perspectives. Identify points for collaboration with co-workers; readily offer and request assistance.**
- Level 3: Work effectively as a part of an interdependent team (your work gets done only if the work of the whole team is done; evaluation of team performance is more relevant than individual performance).

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Discusses work-related matters with co-workers.
- Offers and requests assistance readily.
- Offers and is receptive to suggestions.
- Identifies problems with workflow that will prevent team from accomplishing its goals.
- Provides constructive criticism and feedback to team members to improve overall functioning of team.
- Assigns credit to team for accomplishments.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Cooperates with co-workers and fulfills responsibilities as a member of a project team. Maintains a focus on common objectives and offers and requests assistance readily.

Superior

Sees the team as a whole; acknowledges that performance of the team is what in reality is evaluated by others. If anyone fails, everyone on the team fails.

45. ORAL COMMUNICATION – Communicates orally in a clear, concise, and effective manner.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

- Level 1: Exchange specific, job-related information orally with others in the immediate work environment or via telephone and/or radio.
- Level 2: Obtain/provide/present general and/or job-specific information orally to a variety of others in various situations.
- Level 3: Obtain/provide/present a diverse array of information orally at varying levels of complexity to a wide range of others across many different situations and circumstances.**

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Audience clearly understands the intended message.
- Rarely must repeat information in response to questions.
- Refrains from use of unnecessary words, phrases, or jargon.
- Provides a level of detail appropriate to the situation (avoids too much or too little detail).
- Speaks at a level appropriate to the audience in terms of terminology, sentence structure, and simplicity/complexity of ideas expressed.
- Uses words with precision (vocabulary) to convey exact information.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Speaks clearly and audibly, providing the appropriate information and level of detail. Typically conveys the message on the first attempt. Answers questions accurately and directly.

Superior

Speech is direct and to the point. Speaks convincingly and with authority when appropriate. Maintains sensitivity to the audience while providing thorough information with the appropriate level of detail through the use of precise language.

47. WRITTEN COMMUNICATION – Communicates effectively in writing.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

- Level 1: Write notes/e-mails. Completes forms with some open-ended responses (sentences).
- Level 2: Write letters, articles/reports, and/or detailed descriptions of activities/occurrences.**
- Level 3: Write lengthy reports, instruction manuals, in-depth analyses/reviews of complex issues and/or articles for publication. Reviews the written work of others.

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Writing includes the necessary information to convey the intended message.
- Sufficiently few errors in spelling, punctuation, grammar to not interfere with the intended message or distract the reader.
- Little editing or re-writing needed to produce a final product.
- Composes materials efficiently.
- Information is presented in a well-organized manner.
- Tone and degree of formality are appropriate to the purpose and audience.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Writes material that clearly communicates the necessary information; needs little editing.

Superior

Precisely uses words and organizes information in a way that enhances presentation of the message. Virtually no editing needed.

59. STRATEGIC PLANNING – Establishes plans in a way that will achieve vision for the future.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

- Level 1: Recognizes that no work organization is static, so identifies how an improved organization would function and develops plans to create such an organization.
- Level 2: Considers factors in the external environment, best practices, and internal organizational factors to develop a vision for the future; identifies feasible changes/innovations in support of the vision.**
- Level 3: Considers social, economic, legal, and political trends and the “big picture” of the organization to establish a vision for its effective operation in the world of the future.

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Establishes and keeps up-to-date a “strategic plan.”
- Articulates how current trends and anticipated future events are expected to impact the organization.
- Identifies actions the organization can take to accommodate or leverage trends and future events.
- Recognizes that evolution/change will occur, and without an attempt to manage it, that it is unlikely to be in the best interest of the organization.
- Accepts that even when many factors are unknown or their certainty is questionable, that which is known with any degree of certainty can be effectively used to formulate plans.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Considers the future when establishing current day-to-day operational practices. Envisions an improved organization and identifies specific actions to help create it.

Superior

Understands that the larger environment in which the organization exists is influenced by and influences the organization. Notwithstanding uncertainties, formulates a vision and plans to achieve it.