Fire Union President Tom Ryan praised the outgoing commissioner as a great chief.

"You could probably count on one hand the amount of firefighters in the country that have the credentials that Bob Hoff has. He will be sorely missed," Ryan said.

Ryan said he was also pleased with Santiago as a replacement.

"Jose is no stranger to situations like this. Firefighter for I believe 33 years, but served as a U.S. Marine for 30 years. He is used to this kind of situation. I think he will be a fine choice."