

Memorandum

**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL**

FROM: Norberto Dueñas

**SUBJECT: Appointment of Interim
Fire Chief**

DATE: January 27, 2015

INFORMATION

With the retirement of San José Fire Chief Ruben Torres this week, I have appointed Deputy Fire Chief Curtis Jacobson to serve as Interim Fire Chief to ensure continuity and stability for the Fire Department, effective February 1, 2015.

Curtis currently serves as Deputy Fire Chief in the Bureau of Operational Support since last summer, where he has been responsible for the administration of the department's emergency medical services, training, apparatus, facilities, and bond programs. He began his career in the department 23 years ago as a Fire Fighter, was promoted to Captain in 1999, Battalion Chief in 2007, he also served as a higher class Deputy Chief from 2011 to 2013 and Division Chief in early 2014. Over his years of service, Curtis has served in many capacities in fire operations, fire prevention, training, administration, and as Fire Marshal. He has a broad and deep knowledge of the firefighting profession, our department and its staff, as well as our community as a result of his active personal community engagement.

I anticipate starting the process for a national search for our next fire chief later this spring so that our next City Manager will be able to make a selection with minimal delay. My goal will be to develop a timeline and begin the outreach process in the next several months so that we can begin to identify a pool of candidates with the qualifications, experience, and personal attributes that will be a good match for San José and our Fire Department going forward.

On behalf of the men and women in the San José Fire Department, and of our entire community, please join me in welcoming Curtis Jacobson as Interim Chief, and in thanking Chief Torres for his long career of service to the people of San José. I deeply appreciate Curtis's willingness to serve in this capacity during this transitional period, and I look forward to working with him and his team to serve and protect this community.



Norberto Dueñas
Interim City Manager