

August 2, 2018

Dear Commissioner Santiago,

As a fellow brother in the military you understand the value of honor, respect and loyalty in order to serve. You as a former member of the U.S Marine and I as a former of the U.S Army, we need to stand and support each other. Recently, in a Chicago Sun-Times news article on July 13, 2018, appointed deputy district Chief Edgar Ignacio Silvestrini, director Fire Department's Medical Section and a Paramedic in Charge were accused of participating in a payroll scam. Unfortunately, this is the same Deputy who moved to have me unjustly terminated as noted in grievance #170813 that is still pending. Due to the grievance still being open, I took the necessary steps to address the unequal treatment I experienced while being an active member of the Chicago Fire Department as noted in case #12-cv-04327 and U.S Court of Appeals case No. 15-2849.

As a life long service professional, my ultimate goal has never wavered and that is to be able to serve. I am asking you the Commissioner of the Chicago Fire Department to support your fellow brother and combat military veteran to support my reinstatement to continue to serve my purpose as a Chicago firefighter. I have served since 2006 and I have always worn my uniform with pride and honor. I think back when I started my career as a Firefighter with CFD and a particular moment comes mind when you and I spoke and shared our experiences not only as veterans but also as Puerto Ricans. We both understand the meaning of never leaving a fellow brother in arms behind and standing with each other against injustice.

As young man, I persevered through many obstacles such as growing up without family support or encouragement and the absence of positives roles models. I showed perseverance and grit having served in the military honorably in the U.S. Air Force, U.S Army and the field of public safety with the Illinois State Police and the Chicago Fire Department. My entire life has been dedicated to the service of others.

I am a man of conviction and purpose and therefore have chosen to continue to pursue my degree in Public Safety Administration despite my pending grievance. I will graduate in winter 2018 as I refuse to let this unjust situation deter me from my goals and vocation. I respectfully request your support in my return to service as a Chicago firefighter. President Franklin D. Roosevelt once said, *"A man who is good enough to shed his blood for his country is good enough to be given a square deal afterwards."*

I look forward to hearing from you soon and I would like meet with you. I can myself available to fit your schedule. Together I'm sure we can find a positive resolution.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Respectfully

Roberto G. Alamo
Firefighter # 19815

CC: Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel