



**AMERICAN FEDERATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES
NATIONAL VETERANS AFFAIRS COUNCIL #53
Affiliated with the AFL - CIO
Mid-Term Bargaining Committee**

Oscar L. Williams Jr., Chair 2 nd Exec. V-President 29 Lake Street Danville, IL 61832-6101	Bill Wetmore, Member 3 rd Exec. V-President 2319 Alava Court Waldorf, MD 20603	Patrick Russell, Member 8 th Dist. Rep., NVAC VA Blacks Hills, HCS Hot Springs, SD 57747	Willie E. Haywood Jr. Member 6 th Dist. Rep., NVAC 17705 Garden Blvd. Cleveland, OH 44126
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January 24, 2011

Leslie Wiggins, Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Labor Management Relations (LMR)
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420

Subject: VHA Primary Care Transformation Initiative (PACT)

Dear Ms. Wiggins:

This communication is in response to your letter dated January 13, 2011 on the above cited subject. You make a statement the intent of this letter is to alleviate potential confusion concerning the Patient Centered Care Medical Home (PCMH) program which VHA Under Secretary of Health has renamed Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT) without official notice to the exclusive representative. NVAC is not confused about what the national parties signed off on or the role of the RN Care Coordinator in our national MOU. NVAC clearly understood the RN position was not that of a supervisory role.

The national parties MOU signed off on June 9, 2010 on Patient Centered Care Medical Home within the Department paragraph 2, *A "Teamlet" by definition consists of a primary care provider, registered nurse care coordinator, clinical associate (LPN/LVN/CAN/HT/MA) and administrative associate (MC/HT). The Department agrees to provide clarification of the roles of Teamlet members once the Teamlet is established. The specific disciplines will be determined locally.*

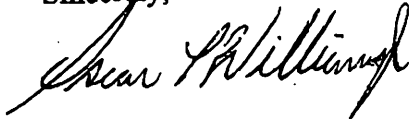
NVAC has not received any official notice that PCMH program has been rescinded: I have made calls to Ms. Joleen Clark, former Chief Officer, Office of VHA Workforce Management and Consulting and was informed that VHA would comply with the MOU.

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It is therefore bad faith bargaining for the Under Secretary of Health to have VHA management officials engage AFGE/NAVC Locals on the PACT program. NVAC consider this a repudiation of the June 9, 2010 MOU and will take appropriate action in this matter. VHA management officials need to comply with the national MOU on PCMH program or send proper notice to the exclusive representative. Sending a letter to the NPC does not meet the bargaining obligation with NVAC on this matter.

Please call me at (217) 554-4866 for any questions in regards to this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Oscar L. Williams, Jr.", written in black ink.

Oscar L. Williams, Jr.
Chairperson, Mid-Term Bargaining Committee
2nd Executive Vice President
National VA Council #53

cc: Alma L. Lee, President National VA Council #53
NVAC Executive Committee
NVAC Title 38 Mid-Term Bargaining Committee