



**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 61832-8101	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	Sandra Eggleston, Member 13 th Dist. Rep., NVAC VAMC Tucson Tucson, AZ 85723
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February 2, 2009

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

Subject: VA Directive 7700 "Occupational Safety and Health"

Dear Ms. Flanz:

The National VA Council #53 is formally demanding to bargain over the VA Directive 7700 Occupational Safety and Health in the Department. This VA Directive would rescind VA Handbook 7700.1 dated July 8, 1998 and not afford the exclusive representative the right to bargain over the rescissions of the prior VA Directive 7700.1 and VA Handbook dated July 8, 1998. Please provide the above named bargaining committee with the information and/or data related to the above subject. The negotiations in this matter should normally begin within ten (10) workdays after the management chief negotiator in this matter receives our demand to bargain.

Please cease and desist any implementation of bargaining unit until after the bargaining obligation has been met. The named bargaining committee may request a briefing over the cited subject above, before sending any proposals. If you have any questions please call me at (217) 554-4866.

Sincerely,

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
Executive Committee, NVAC

**AFGE: The Future Is Ours
Creating A Shared Vision For The 21st Century**