



**AMERICAN FEDERATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES
NATIONAL VETERANS AFFAIRS COUNCIL #53**

**Affiliated with the AFL - CIO
Mid-Term Bargaining Committee**

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July 23, 2009

Scott Holliday, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Labor Management Relations (LMR)
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, N.W
Washington, DC 20420

Subject: Demand to Bargain – VHA Directive 2009-031

Dear Mr. Holliday:

This communication is in response to the Department's letter dated July 14, 2009 received by me on July 17, 2009. In my letter dated July 9, 2009 the NVAC demanded to bargain on the above cited subject.

NVAC has been receiving complaints from AFGE Local that the realignment of SPD under the Nurse Executive has resulted in some VHA facilities reducing the grade of SPD unit employees. This change in working conditions has more than a de minimis impact on our bargaining unit employees represented by AFGE/NVAC.

Please cease and desist any implementation until the bargaining obligation has been met. If you have any questions please contact 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: Good Government We Are Ready