



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

Oscar L. Williams Jr., Chairperson 29 Lake Street Danville, IL 61832-6101  
Bill Wetmore, Member 2319 Alava Court Waldorf, MD 20603  
Patrick Russell, Member VA Blacks Hills, HCS Hot Springs, SD 57747  
Sandra Eggleston, Member 13<sup>th</sup> Dist. Rep., NVAC VAMC Tucson Tucson, AZ 85723

December 2, 2008

Meghan Flanz, Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Labor Management Relations (LMR)  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
1575 I Street, N.W., Suite 250  
Washington, DC 20420

Subject: Demand to Bargain – VHA Handbook 1162.xx Mental Health Residential  
Rehabilitation Treatment Program (MH RRTP)

Dear Ms. Flanz:

The National VA Council #53 formally demanding to bargain over VHA Handbook 1162.xx MH RRTP within the Department on October 3, 2008. NVAC is not waiving our rights to bargain on this VHA Handbook 1162.xx. NVAC does not agree to post-implementation bargaining on the VHA Handbook 1162.xx. Please provide the above named bargaining committee with any information and/or data concerning the cited subject. The negotiations of this matter should normally begin no later than ten (10) workdays after the management chief negotiator in this matter receives our demand to bargain.

Please cease and desist any implementation until 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 contact me at (217) 554-4866.

Sincerely,

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

cc: Alma L. Lee, President National VA Council #53  
Executive Committee, NVAC

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Creating A Shared Vision For The 21<sup>st</sup> Century**