



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

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

**Valorie Reilly, Chair
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October 3, 2013

Mr. Kevin Nelson, Chief Negotiator
VBA Office of Labor Management Relations (LMR)
Department of Veterans Affairs
Washington, DC 20420

Subject: Government Lockout/Furloughs

Dear Mr. Nelson:

In accordance with Article 47, Section 2 C., of the Master Agreement the National VA Council #53 is formally demanding to bargain on the procedures and appropriate arrangements cited above within the Department. Ordinarily, negotiations should normally begin no later than twenty (20) workdays after the Management Chief Negotiator in this receives our demand to bargain. However, VBA failed to properly notify AFGE/NVAC of the actions being taken throughout VBA; and, there is no uniformity in the messages going out to employees. Time is of the essence in this matter. Please provide the above named NVAC VBA Mid-Term Bargaining Committee with all information and/or data related to the subject and please arrange for a briefing and bargaining over this topic as soon as possible.

Please cease and desist any implementation until the bargaining obligation has been met. The named VBA Bargaining Committee is requesting a briefing over the cited subject above, before sending any proposals. If you have any questions please call me at (727) 319-7788.

Sincerely,

Valorie Reilly, Chairperson
VBA Sub Committee, Mid-Term Bargaining
National VA Council #53

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

AFGE: Good Government We Are Ready