



**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	Willie Haywood, Member 6 th Dist. Rep., NVAC 17705 Garden Blvd. Cleveland, OH 44128	Jeff Sladek, Member 13 th Dist. Rep., NVAC VAMC 3601 S. 6 th Ave. Tucson, AZ 85723	Stephanie Starks, Member National Rep., NVAC VAMC Philadelphia Philadelphia, PA 19104
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January 2, 2014

Kimberley D. Moseley, Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Labor Management Relations (LMR)
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420

Subject: VHA Directive 1063 "Utilization of Physician Assistants (PA) dated December 24, 2013

Dear Ms. Moseley:

In accordance with Article 47, Section 1 C., of the Master Agreement the National VA Council #53 is formally demand to bargain on VHA Directive 1063 cited above within the Department. Please provide the NVAC's Title 38 Mid-Term Bargaining Committee with all information and/or data related to this subject. The negotiations of this matter should normally begin no later than twenty (20) 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 Title 38 Mid-Term 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
NVAC Executive Committee
Title 38 Mid-Term Bargaining Committee

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UTILIZATION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS (PA)

1. **REASON FOR ISSUE:** This Veterans Health Administration (VHA) provides policy for the utilization of Physician Assistants (PA) in VHA.
2. **SUMMARY OF CHANGES:**
 - a. Updates the descriptions in the responsibilities section to provide greater clarification.
 - b. Establishes Core PA Scope of Practice and Expanded Scope of Practice elements.
 - c. Establishes specific levels of PA practice autonomy.
 - d. Updates requirements for physician oversight of PA practice
 - e. Establishes the requirement for the use of Focused Professional Practice Evaluations (FPPE) and Ongoing Professional Practice Evaluations (OPPE) for physician assistants.
3. **RELATED ISSUES:** VA Handbook 5005; VHA Handbooks 1100.19, and 1100.17.
4. **RESPONSIBLE OFFICE:** The Director of Physician Assistant Services (10P4J) is responsible for the contents of this Directive. Questions concerning this Directive may be addressed at 202-461-7042.
5. **RESCISSIONS:** VHA Directive 2004-029, dated July 2, 2004, is rescinded.
6. **RECERTIFICATION:** This VHA Directive is scheduled for recertification on or before the last working day of December 2018.

Robert A. Petzel, M.D.
Under Secretary for Health

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