



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

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National Rep., NVAC  
VAMC Philadelphia  
Philadelphia, PA 19104

May 12, 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: VA Office of Occupational Safety and Health, implementing Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS)

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 VA's implementing of Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals cited above within the Department. Please provide the NVAC's 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 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  
2<sup>nd</sup> Executive Vice President  
National VA Council #53

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

**AFGE: Good Government We Are Ready**

**Williams, Oscar L Jr.**

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**From:** Stephen, Donald  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:34 AM  
**To:** Williams, Oscar L Jr.  
**Cc:** Denny, Frank; Jones, Anitra; Woodard, Timothy; Dalton, Monica SAMVAMC; Zeveski, James; Stephen, Donald  
**Subject:** FW: VA Globally Harmonized System (GHS) Training (OSHA Mandated)  
**Attachments:** OSHA3642.pdf; Page 2.docx; Page 1.docx; oshaghsworkshop.ppt

Good morning Mr. Williams,

Our office, on behalf of the Office of Occupational Safety and Health (HRA), is implementing a Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS). OSHA revised its Hazard Communication Standard (HCS) to align with the United Nations' Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS) and published it in the Federal Register in March 2012 (77 FR 17574). The new label elements and SDS requirements will improve worker understanding of the hazards associated with the chemicals in their workplace. To help companies comply with the revised standard, OSHA is phasing in the specific requirements over several years (December 1, 2013 to June 1, 2016).

If your office need any additional information please contact me directly at (202) 461-5123. For program information please contact Jim Zeveski at 3140 652- 4100 X63194.

Donald Stephen  
Labor Relations Specialist  
VACO LMR 202-461-4123  
[donald.stephen@va.gov](mailto:donald.stephen@va.gov)

**RECEIVED**  
MAY 13 2014  
BY: *[Signature]*  
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