



(October 5, 2015)

In order to further improve the lines of communication and to respond to the concerns between the National VA Council and you our members, I have established a National VA Council Briefing. This NVAC Briefing will bring you the latest news and developments within DVA and provide you with the current status of issues this Council is currently addressing. I believe that this NVAC Briefing will greatly enhance the way in which we communicate and the way in which we share new information, keeping you better informed.

Alma L. Lee
National VA Council, President

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**In This Briefing: MESSAGE FROM THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR HEALTH**  
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October 5, 2015

I am pleased to announce today that Vivieca Wright-Simpson has been appointed as VHA's Chief of Staff. She is an accomplished senior executive whose many years of experience in VA health care administration, both in the field and in headquarters, will be a tremendous asset to me in leading our transformation.

Since I arrived three months ago, Vivieca has become a trusted advisor, and I know she will be a wonderful partner as Chief of Staff, helping me guide this organization on our critical journey to become the health care system Veterans deserve. She is the embodiment of our most central values, acting every day with integrity, commitment, advocacy, respect, and excellence.

Vivieca most recently served in the Office of the Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Operations and Management. She joined that office in 2005, and was promoted to Director of Network Support in 2008. Before coming to VA Central Office, she worked in the VA MidSouth Healthcare Network and the Tennessee Valley Healthcare System. Throughout her long and distinguished career, Vivieca has been a tireless public servant, a passionate advocate for Veterans, and a consummate professional.

Please join me in welcoming Vivieca to her new role, and give her your full support as we continue our progress.

Thank you for all you do every day to honor and care for Veterans.

DAVID J. SHULKIN, M.D.

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