



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

Dennis Freeman, Chair Seattle VARO 915 2 nd Ave WA 98174	William Tyler, Member St. Louis VARO PO Box 328 St. Louis MO 63166	Geneva Moore, Member Winston-Salem VARO 251 N Main St Winston-Salem NC 27155	Barb Tedesco, Member Denver VARO 155 Van Gordon St Lakewood CO 80228	Jan Avant, Member Little Rock VARO 2200 Fort Roots Dr. N Little Rock, AR 72114
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*Mr. Kevin Nelson, Chief Negotiator
VBA Office of Labor Management Relations (LMR)
Department of Veterans Affairs*

July 8, 2016

Subject: VBMS Functionality Upgrade - Medical Disability Examinations

This is a demand to bargain (DTB) filed under the provisions of Article 47, Sections 1 and 2 of the Master Agreement between the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), signed March 15, 2011 (MCBA) with respect to the above referenced subject.

The VBA Midterm Bargaining Committee received notice from Management on July 8, 2016 that there would be a VBMS functionality upgrade that allows VA exams to be ordered through VBMS. AFGE requests a briefing on this matter in order to determine if we need to bargain over the appropriate arrangements this may have on the employees we represent.

Any and all implementation already begun should be stopped and VA should cease and desist any further implementation until bargaining has been concluded.

The above identified AFGE VBA midterm bargaining team should be provided a briefing before proposals are provided. VA shall cease and desist from any and all implementation of the proposed initiative until the bargaining obligation has been satisfied. Please provide any and all information related to the above subject to the VBA midterm bargaining team no later than the briefing. The VA chief negotiator should contact the undersigned no less than 20 days from the receipt of this DTB.

If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned at 253-677-6224 (or by electronic mail at dennis.freeman2@va.gov).

In Solidarity,

Dennis Freeman

Acting Chair, VBAMTBC

Cc: Alma L. Lee, President, National Veterans Affairs Council #53, AFGE NVAC Executive Committee
Larry Looney, Jan Avant, Barb Tedesco Geneva Moore, William Tyler, William Wetmore Fred Sacchi and David Bump