



**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	Tinita Cole, Member NVAC Nat., Rep. VAMC Dayton Dayton, OH 45428	Harold Robbins, Member AFGE President Local 559 VAMC Orlando Orlando, FL 32803
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April 16, 2021

Ophelia A. Vicks, Acting Executive Director
Office of Labor Management Relations (LMR)
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420

Subject: Retroactive Negotiations of the Accountability Act

Dear Ms. Vicks:

Pursuant to the Arbitrator Cohen's March 13, 2021 Opinion and Award concerning the remedy for the Department's failure to bargain the implementation of the Accountability Act (NG-8/1/17), the National VA Council #53 formally demands to bargain on the VA's implementation of Public Law 115-41 Veterans Accountability Act as cited above within the Department. Please provide the NVAC's Mid-Term Bargaining Committee named above with all information and/or data related to this subject. NVAC's Mid-Term Bargaining Committee will be using Subject Matter Experts in this negotiation. The negotiation in this matter should begin immediately given the Department's delay up to this point.

As the arbitration decision is now final, please cease and desist any further implementation until retroactive bargaining obligation has been met. The NVAC's Mid-Term Bargaining Committee may request a briefing prior to sending any proposals. If you have any questions, please call me at (217) 554-4979.

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

AFGE: Good Government We Are Ready