



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

Oscar L. Williams Jr., Chair
2nd Exec. V-President
29 Lake Street
Danville, IL 61832-6101

Bill Wetmore, Member
3rd Exec. V-President
2319 Alava Court
Waldorf, MD 20603

Willie Haywood, Member
6th Dist. Rep., NVAC
17705 Garden Blvd.
Cleveland, OH 44128

Tinita Cole, Member
NVAC Nat., Rep.
VAMC Dayton
Dayton, OH 45428

Harold Robbins, Member
President, AFGE Local 559
VAMC Orlando
Orlando, FL 32803

July 29, 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: Mandatory COVID Vaccinations for all Department of Veterans Affairs Police
Employees to attend courses at the Law Enforcement Training Center (LETC)

Dear Ms. Vicks:

In accordance with Article 47, Section 2, C, of the Master Agreement, the National VA Council #53 is formally demanding to bargain on the Mandatory COVID Vaccinations for all Department of Veterans Affairs Police Employees to attend courses at the Law Enforcement Training Center (LETC) as cited above within the Department. Please provide the NVAC's Mid-Term Bargaining Team named above with any and/or all information/data concerning the cited above subject. The negotiations of this subject should normally begin no later than twenty (20) workdays after the Management's Chief Negotiator in this matter receives our demand to bargain.

Please cease and desist any implementation until the bargaining obligation has been met. The above named NVAC's Mid-Term Bargaining Team may requesting a briefing over the cited subject above, before 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

**Department of
Veterans Affairs**

Memorandum

Date: July 27, 2021

From: Assistant Under Secretary for Health for Operations

Subj: Mandatory COVID Vaccinations for All Department of Veterans Affairs (VA Police Employees to Attend Courses at the Law Enforcement Training Center (LETC)

To: Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) Directors (10N1-23)
Medical Center Directors (00)

1. The purpose of the memorandum is to provide additional requirements for all VA Police employees that must attend courses through the LETC to remain certified with mandatory training.
2. Following the Secretary's recent message regarding COVID-19 mandatory vaccines for employees who work in Veterans Health Administration (VHA) facilities, visit VHA facilities and involved in the direct care to those we serve; VA Police employees will only be scheduled for mandatory courses through the LETC if they are fully vaccinated.
3. Network and Medical Center Directors are requested to ensure that all VA Police officers provide their vaccinated status before being cleared to travel through their Occupational Health offices. If a VA Police employee is not fully vaccinated for any reason, courses at the LETC will be disapproved until a later date when the requirement is met.
4. The health and safety of our staff, Veterans, and their families is critical to continue to provide optimum health care at VA. Should you have questions regarding the vaccination requirement for all VA Police employees, please send an email to Troy Brown, Senior Security Officer at Troy.Brown@va.gov.

Renee Oshinski