

Memorandum of Understanding

The following constitutes agreement between the Department of Veterans Affairs (Department) and the American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO, National Veterans Affairs Council #53 (AFGE) regarding VA Directive/Handbook 7176, "Supply, Processing, and Distribution."

1. The Department agrees that training is an appropriate subject for local level bargaining with the understanding that any agreement shall be in accordance with Article 34 of the Master Agreement.
2. Employees are not required to take the certification test. The Department shall meet its labor relations obligations at the national level prior to requiring that the certification test be mandatory.
3. Local unions may negotiate further on VA Directive/Handbook 7176 as long as there is no conflict with the Master Agreement and this MOU.
4. A copy of this MOU will be provided upon receipt to all local union presidents and appropriate management officials.



For the Department



For the National VA Council #53

11-20-01
Date