



**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	Jeff Sladek, Member 13 th Dist. Rep., NVAC VAMC 3601 S. 6 th Ave. Tucson, AZ 85723	Stephanie Starks, Member National Rep., NVAC VAMC Philadelphia Philadelphia, PA 19104
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January 28, 2013

Leslie B. Wiggins, Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Labor Management Relations (LMR)
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420

Subject: VA Nutrition Study Design Project

Dear Ms. Wiggins:

In accordance with Article 47 Section 2 C., of the Master Agreement the National VA Council #53 is formally demanding to bargain on VA Nutrition Study Design Project within the Department. Please provide the above named Mid-Term Bargaining Committee with all information and/or data related to the subject. The negotiations of this matter should normally begin no later than twenty (20) workdays after the Management Chief Negotiator receives our demand to bargain.

Please cease and desist any implementation until the bargaining obligation has been met. The named NVAC's Mid-Term Bargaining Committee may request a briefing over the cited subject above, before sending any proposals. If you have any questions please call me at (217) 554-4866.

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: January 18, 2013
From: Director Veterans Canteen Service
Subj: VA Nutrition Study Design Project
To: Deputy Assistant Secretary, Labor-Management Relations

Veterans Canteen Service is participating in a nutrition research study with SBG Technology Solutions at the request of Dr. Peter Levin, Senior Advisor to the Secretary.

The primary purpose of this project is the comprehensive design of a clinically valid study of nutrition's role in the treatment of disease and the maintenance of the long term health of our veterans.

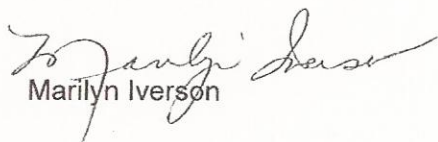
The research study will include:

- Exploration of the operational, procurement, implementation and clinical implication of possible study designs, as well as the ethical and legal requirements and costs for both VCS and NFS.
- Interviews with VCS management team and hourly associates to understand the day-to-day technical functions within each food location.
- Development of a study design that can identify dietary approaches/patterns that will provide the greatest benefits to Veterans' health.

Research Assistants for SBG will conduct individual site visits dates to be determined, at the following proposed VHA locations:

Philadelphia, PA	Little Rock, AR
Baltimore, MD	Miami, FL
Washington DC	Minneapolis, MN
Durham, NC	Iowa City, IA
Cleveland, OH	San Francisco, CA
Ann Arbor, MI	Hines, IL
West Side, IL	Los Angeles, CA
Seattle, OR	Palo Alto, CA
Portland, OR	West Haven, CT
Las Vegas, NV	

We anticipate the study team to visit each location within the next 90 days. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me any time.


Marilyn Iverson

Received

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Nat'l VA Council
Midterm Bargaining Committee