



**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<sup>nd</sup> Exec. V-President  
29 Lake Street  
Danville, IL 61832-6101

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

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

Jeff Sladek, Member  
13<sup>th</sup> Dist. Rep., NVAC  
VAMC 3601 S. 6<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Tucson, AZ 85723

Stephanie Starks, Member  
National Rep., NVAC  
VAMC Philadelphia  
Philadelphia, PA 19104

October 16, 2012

Dennis H. Smith, Director  
VA Maryland Health Care System  
10 North Greene Street  
Baltimore, MD 21201

Subject: VISN 5 VA Maryland HCS Policy Memorandum 512-11/COS-126 Assessment and Management of Patients at Risk for Suicide (AFGE Local 331 and AFGE Local 1923)

Dear Mr. Smith:

In accordance with Article 47, Section 2 C, of the Master Agreement, the National VA Council #53 formally demanding to bargain on the VAMHCS Policy cited above in VISN 5 within the Department. Ms. Alma L. Lee will be naming the Union's chief negotiator and negotiating team. Please provide the named bargaining team with any information and/or data concerning the cited subject. The negotiations of this matter 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 named bargaining team may request a briefing over the cited subject above, before sending any proposals. If you have any questions please contact me at (217) 554-4866.

Sincerely,

Oscar L. Williams, Jr.  
Chairperson, Mid-Term Bargaining Committee  
2<sup>nd</sup> Executive Vice President  
National VA Council #53

cc: Alma L. Lee, President National VA Council #53  
Williams Wetmore, 14<sup>th</sup> District Representative NVAC

**AFGE: Good Government We Are Ready**