



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

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Tucson, AZ 85723

November 9, 2011

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

Subject: Demand to Bargain – VISN5 VAMHCS Policy Memorandum 512-135-009 Canteen  
Coupon Book Distribution and Use (AFGE Local 331 and AFGE Local 1923)

Dear Mr. Smith:

In accordance with Article 44, Section 2 C, of the Master Agreement, the National VA Council #53 formally demanding to bargain over the cited subject listed above in VISN 5 within the Department. Ms. Alma L. Lee will be naming the Chief Union Negotiator and negotiating team. Please provide the named bargaining committee with any information and/or data concerning the cited subject. The negotiations of this matter should normally begin no later than ten (10) workdays after the management 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 committee 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  
William "Bill" Wetmore, 3<sup>rd</sup> Executive Vice President, NVAC

**AFGE: Good Government We Are Ready**