



**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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October 23, 2013

Patrick J. Kelly, Director
Minneapolis VA Health Care System
One Veterans Drive
Minneapolis, MN 55417

Subject: VISN 23 MVAHCS Closure of Ward 4 E (AFGE Local 1969 and AFGE Local 3669)

Dear Mr. Kelly:

In accordance with Article 47, Section 2 C, of the Master Agreement, the National VA Council #53 formally demanding to bargain on the closure of Ward 4 E as cited above within MVAHCS in VISN 23. 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 negotiation of this matter should normally begin no later than twenty (20) workdays after the Management chief Negotiator in this matter receives our demand to bargain.

Please cease and desist any implementation until the national 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
2nd Executive Vice President
National VA Council #53

cc: Alma L. Lee, President National VA Council #53
Patrick Russell, 8th District Representative NVAC

AFGE: Good Government We Are Ready



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Minneapolis VA Health Care System
One Veterans Drive
Minneapolis, MN 55417



In Reply Refer to: (618/05)

October 23, 2013


Oscar L. Williams, Jr.
Chairperson, AFGE Mid-Term Bargaining Committee
29 Lake Street
Danville, IL 61832-6101

Dear Mr. Williams:

1. In accordance with the Master Agreement between the Department of Veterans Affairs and AFGE, Article 47, Section 4 (B), please find attached the Notification of Intent to Close Ward 4E.
2. The e-mail notification of the intent to close Ward 4E was provided by Sharon Myllenbeck to AFGE Locals 1969 and 3669 on October 21, 2013. This notification was based upon the decision by the Medical Center Director to proceed with Option 2 for Ward 3E. The Director's decision was made after completing a decision analysis for staffing the new inpatient Ward 3E.
3. There is no established date yet for the opening of Ward 3E, but it should be sometime in late January or early February of 2014. The lead negotiator, should you request to bargain any I & I issues associated with the Ward 4E closure, will be Sharon Myllenbeck. Teresa Tungseth will also be on the negotiating team. Don Wodek will be the Human Resources advisor.
4. If you wish to bargain any impact and implementation issues associated with the Ward 4E closure, please submit your demand to bargain within 20 working days after receipt of this notice directly to:

Minneapolis VA Health Care System
Human Resources Management Service
(05) HRMS Don Wodek
One Veterans Drive
Minneapolis, MN 55417

5. If you have any questions on this notice, please feel free to contact Don Wodek, Employee and Labor Relations Specialist, (612) 629-7584.


PATRICK J. KELLY, FACHE
Director, Minneapolis VA Health Care System

cc: Jane Nygaard, President AFGE 3669
Vicky Sirovy, President AFGE, Local 1969

