



**AMERICAN FEDERATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES  
NATIONAL VETERANS AFFAIRS COUNCIL #53**

**Affiliated with the AFL - CIO  
Mid-Term Bargaining Committee**

DUPLICATE

Oscar L. Williams Jr., Chairperson 2<sup>nd</sup> Exec. V-President, NVAC  
29 Lake Street  
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Patrick Russell, Member 8<sup>th</sup> Dist. Rep., NVAC  
VA Blacks Hills, HCS  
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Sandra Eggleston, Member 13<sup>th</sup> Dist. Rep., NVAC  
VAMC Tucson  
Tucson, AZ 85723

July 10, 2008

Meghan Flanz, Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Labor Management Relations (LMR)  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
1575 I Street, N.W., Suite 250  
Washington, DC 20420

Subject: Demand to Bargain – VHA Directive 2008-xxx Mandatory Suicide Risk and  
Intervention Training for VHA Health Care Providers

Dear Ms. Flanz:

In accordance with Article 44, Section 2 C, of the Master Agreement, the National VA Council #53 formally demanding to bargain over VHA Mandatory Suicide Risk and Intervention Training for Health Care Providers within the Department. Please provide the above 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  
Executive Committee, NVAC

**AFGE: The Future Is Ours  
Creating A Shared Vision For The 21<sup>st</sup> Century**