



**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	Tinita Cole, Member NVAC Nat., Rep. VAMC Dayton Dayton, OH 45428	Harold Robbins, Member AFGE President Local 559 VAMC Orlando Orlando, FL 32803
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January 26, 2021

Ophelia Ann Vicks, Acting Executive Director
Office of Labor Management Relations (LMR)
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420

Subject: Executive Order Protecting the Federal Workforce

Dear Ms. Vicks:

In accordance with Article 47, Section 2, of the Master Agreement, National VA Council #53 is formally demanding to bargain on the implementation of the Executive Order on Protecting the Federal Workforce, dated January 22, 2021 issued by President Joseph R. Biden Jr.

As you know, President Biden ordered executive agencies to “suspend, revise, or rescind” actions related to or arising from Executive Orders 13836, 13837 and 13839 as soon as practicable. Therefore, the National VA Council #53 submits this demand to bargain in order to return to the status quo under the VA/AFGE Master Agreement, including but not limited to, the negotiated provisions in Article 27 – Performance Appraisal, Article 47 – Mid-Term Bargaining, Article 48 – Official Time, and Article 51 – Use of Official Facilities. The negotiations of this matter should begin immediately or no later than three (3) workdays after the Management Chief Negotiator in this matter receives our demand to bargain.

Please begin the immediate restoration of the Official Time allocations and procedures set forth in the 2011 Master Agreement, per the Executive Order of President Biden. If you have any questions, please call me at (217) 670-9357.

AFGE: Good Government We Are Ready

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Oscar L. Williams, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

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