MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The following constitutes an Agreement between the Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Health Administration (VHA) and the American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO, National Veterans Affairs Council #53 (NVAC) concerning VHA Directive 7701 Occupational Safety and Health and VHA Handbook 7701.1 Occupational Safety and Health Program Procedures.

- 1. The national parties agreed to the following changes to VHA Handbook 7701.01 Occupational Safety and Health Program Procedures:
 - 4. Objectives c., "Identify process for VA Offices and Administrations to request occupational safety and health services and technical support from VHA VISN staff."
 - 6. Responsibilities of the Under Secretary for Health, f. "Ensuring OSH technical support and services to VA Offices and Administrations (e.g. Veterans Administration Offices and National Cemetery Administration) as established in both National and VISN MOUs.
 - 7. Responsibilities of the DUSHOM (10N) e., VHA Safety and Health Committee (2) Committee Membership (e) "CEOSH Representative" and
 - 7. Responsibilities of the DUSHOM (10N) f. Awards, "Awards are to be presented annually to those VHA organizations or individuals that have made outstanding contributions in the development or implementation of the OSH Program. The National Safety and Health Leadership committee will coordinate and develop the selection criteria, the award categories and levels, and the program's nomination process."
- 2. AFGE/NVAC membership on Safety Committees at the following levels shall be:
 - VHA Safety Committee 2 members and 2 alternates
 - VISN level Safety Committee, each AFGE Local within the VISN shall have 1 representative and 1 alternate on the committee.
 - VHA facility where only 1 AFGE Local is present, 1 representative and 1 alternate.
 - VHA facility where more than 1 AFGE Locals are present, there shall be 1 representative per AFGE Local and 1 alternate per local.

- 3. NVAC Mid-Term Bargaining Committee shall be provided with the Committee's charter and VHA Strategic Plan from VHA to meet their bargaining obligations.
- 4. The appropriate management official shall provide a copy of this MOU to the Local Union President upon their receipt.

Larry Bennett, VALMR For Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

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Karen Kormelink For Veterans Health Administration (VHA)

7/12/2010

Oscar L. Williams Jr For National VA Council #53

<u>6-29-2010</u> Date