MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The following constitutes an agreement between the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO, National Veterans Affairs Council #53 (NVAC) regarding the Department's OF Bulletin 10047E3.02 "Texting Messaging While Driving."

- The national parties agree this MOU does not waive NVAC's right to bargain on the Department's VA Directive and/or VA Handbook addressing the same subject once completed and provided to NVAC.
- 2. Bargaining unit employees can use electronic communication equipment provided by the Government while operating a motor vehicle with or without the motor running when one has pulled over the side of, or off, an active roadway and has halted in a location where one can safely remain stationary.
- 3. OF Bulletin 1004E3.02 applies to bargaining unit employees driving government-owned, government-leased, or government rented vehicles or privately-owned vehicles on official government business. It also applies when using electronic equipment supplied by the government while driving.
- 4. The Department does not condone management officials engaging in electronic communication(s) with a bargaining unit employee while the employee is operating a motor vehicle for the sole purpose of enforcement of this OF Bulletin.
- 5. A copy of OF Bulletin 10047E3.02 shall be provided by the appropriate management official to bargaining unit employees, when the employee is authorized to use a government-owned, government-leased, government-rented or privately-owned vehicles on official government business.
- 6. Bargaining unit employees may use wireless communication devices in compliance with State Law where required.
- 7. AFGE Local may bargain locally under Article 44, Mid-Term Bargaining, Section 4, if a request is made to local management officials under this MOU.

8. Upon their receipt, the appropriate management official will provide a copy of this MOU to the Local Union President.

For the Department (VA)

For National VA Council #53 (NVAC)

3|3|2010 (Date) 7-24-2010 (Date)