

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The following constitutes a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Department of Veterans Affairs and the National Association of Government Employees (NAGE) concerning the Department of Veterans Affairs Accountability and Whistleblower Protection Act of 2017.

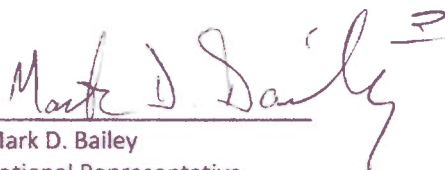
1. The authorities under Title 5 USC Chapter 43 and USC Chapter 75 are available and not superseded by, the Department of Veterans Affairs Accountability and Whistleblower Protection Act, rather the Act grants additional authority to the Secretary of VA.
2. Provisions of the Master Agreement that do not conflict with the Department of Veterans Affairs Accountability and Whistleblower Protection Act will be followed.
3. The parties agree that Management Officials may grant extensions to the seven (7) business day reply period for employees, but a decision by the Deciding Official may not exceed fifteen (15) business days.
4. For actions taken pursuant to the Accountability Act the date upon which an employee begins to calculate 10 business days to file a MSPB appeal or a grievance under the negotiated grievance procedures will be from the date the decision is effective or from the date the decision is received, whichever is later.
5. The Parties agree to engage in Mid-Term bargaining pursuant to Article 13, Part B, Section 3, A, to negotiate over appropriate arrangements and procedures concerning changes to conditions of employment that are not covered by NAGE Master Agreement reflective of the changes resulting from the Accountability Act.
6. Execution of this MOU does not prevent either Party from proposing the re-opening of the NAGE Master Agreement for negotiation under Article 72 concerning the Department of Veterans Affairs Accountability and Whistleblower Protection Act of 2017.
7. A signed copy of this MOU shall be posted on the Office of Labor Management Relations website within 10 calendar days of signing this agreement.
8. NAGE National and the Local Union President shall be provided with a copy of this signed MOU within 10 days of signing this agreement.



Michael J. Clements
LMR Specialist
DVA/VA

12-28-2017

Date



Mark D. Bailey
National Representative
NAGE

12-28-2017

Date