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) on VHA Facilities implementation of Vocera, Ascom, Cisco connected or Hill Rom types of Communication Systems.

1. The national parties agree the implementation of employees' communication systems is not intended to be used to track bargaining unit employee's movement within a facility. The purpose of such systems are to alert staff of patient needs and to request assistance when needed.

2. Bargaining unit employees shall be on duty time for all training related to the employee communication systems.

3. VHA Management officials at the appropriate levels shall send notice to the exclusive representative prior to any implementation of two AFGE Locals within a facility or VISN. The practice of one facility implementing then, another facility implementing will not circumvent the right of the NVAC.

4. AFGE Locals have the right to negotiation further on the implementation of Vocera or other similar type of communication systems, so long as there is no conflict with this MOU and VA/AFGE Master Agreement.

5. Upon receipt, the appropriate management official shall provide a copy of this MOU to the Local Union President.

Donald Stephen, VA LMR Consultant
Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

5/29/2013
Date

Oscar L. Williams, 2nd Exec. Vice President
AFGE, National VA Council#53

5/24/2013
Date

James Zeveski, VHA HR Consultant
Veterans Health Administration (VHA)

6/3/13
Date