

**VA****U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs**

# **News Release**

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## **Statement of Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary David Shulkin on Senior Personnel**

### **Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Chief of Staff Robert (Bob) Snyder to retire**

After almost 8 years with the Department of Veterans Affairs, Mr. Robert (Bob) Snyder, VA Chief of Staff will be retiring from federal service, as of March 4. Bob has at been at the forefront of our path toward transformation as both the Executive Director of MyVA, and most recently as VA Chief of Staff. Bob has been committed to making the transition from one administration to the next as smooth as possible. During the time of transition, Bob stepped in as Acting Secretary, and true to form, he continued to make tough calls, putting Veterans first. VA employees and Veterans alike owe him gratitude for his many years of service and contributions.

### **Ms. Vivieca Wright-Simpson to serve as Interim VA Chief of Staff**

Ms. Vivieca Wright-Simpson, will serve as the Interim VA Chief of Staff effective February 26, 2017. Vivieca previously served as VHA Chief of Staff and a variety of senior roles both at the VA Central Office and field. She played a critical role in the VHA transformation over the last 18 months; she is well suited to step into this position as VA moves forward with an aggressive plan to modernize. She is a trusted leader with a commitment for serving Veterans.

David J. Shulkin, M.D.

Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs