**Sample VA Union Busting Puts Veterans In Jeopardy Letter to the Editor**

Dear Editor:

As a union member and federal employee at the Department of Veterans Affairs, I am appalled by the VA’s threats to evict union representatives from the worksite and disregard for the well-being of our nation’s veterans.

VA employees dedicate our lives to serving our heroic veterans – over one-third of us are veterans ourselves – and we have a special bond with the veterans in our communities. VA management doesn’t seem to understand that, or, if they do, they don’t seem to care.

Denying employees access to their labor representatives at the worksite is blatant union busting and violates the existing contract between the VA and its largest union, the American Federation of Government Employees. This is a punitive and illegal action that is intended to silence employees and discourage us from reporting mismanagement or other abuses that harm veterans’ care.

Making it harder for employees to raise and resolve problems in the workplace will have a direct impact on the care that veterans receive, as issues such as health and safety violations go unreported.

While the VA claims it’s merely trying to enforce three executive orders issued by President Trump last year, those orders clearly prevent agencies from implementing provisions that violate existing collective bargaining agreements without first negotiating the changes with labor unions.

If VA leaders really care about providing the best service to our nation’s veterans, they will stop these illegal union-busting actions and engage in good-faith bargaining on a contract that equips employees with the resources and support they need to succeed.

Sincerely,

**[YOUR NAME]**

**[YOUR HOME ADDRESS]**