



## VA Eviction Do's/Don'ts

- **DON'T** speak to the media in your capacity as a VA employee, but **DO** identify yourself first as a leader of your AFGE local, speaking in that capacity, who is also a VA employee (e.g. Andrew, president of AFGE Local 9999, and an employee at the VA). Also **DO** identify yourself as a veteran if applicable.
- **DO** plan any event/rally/press conference you intend to have off of government property while you are on leave or a lunch break.
- **DO** reach out to local allies and community groups, especially those who work on veterans' issues. **DO** share talking points and invite them to participate in your media event.
- **DO** talk about this as the union being evicted from your space and **DO** mention how long your local has occupied this space, without any issues, throughout multiple administrations.
- **DO** talk about the other organizations inside the VA who are offered space free of charge or by renting the space and **DO** point out when they are being treated in a different way than you.
- **DO** point out that the union is made up of actual employees of the VA who work every day to ensure workplace issues are resolved in a timely manner so that our veterans receive the top-notch care they deserve. **DO** point out when these other organizations do not meet that standard.
- **DON'T** use phrases like "official time" or "go back to work" regarding losing official time and performing your regular job function; but **DO** talk about the way management wants to take away the work time you spend helping resolve workplace disputes, holding rogue managers accountable, bringing issues that affect care to management's attention for resolution, and performing other vital tasks that make the VA a great place for veterans to receive care – and how veterans' care will suffer because of the VA's actions.