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COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

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February 17, 2024

The Honorable Denis R. McDonough  
 Secretary  
 U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
 810 Vermont Avenue, NW  
 Washington, DC 20420

Dear Secretary McDonough:

I appreciated your testimony at the Committee's February 14, 2024, hearing on the ongoing investigation into the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Office of Resolution Management, Diversity and Inclusion (ORMDI).<sup>1</sup> For months, this investigation has had two primary goals. First, to uncover the breadth and veracity of the misconduct allegations within ORMDI that were presented to this Committee by whistleblowers. Second, to uncover when senior leaders at the agency learned about these allegations and why the Department, from the Office of the Secretary to ORMDI itself, universally failed to properly respond to them and treat them with the level of seriousness they deserved.

I wrote to you on November 30, 2023, and December 13, 2023, requesting transcribed interviews with VA employees implicated in the misconduct allegations and with individuals who have leadership and oversight responsibilities over ORMDI.<sup>2</sup> After reviewing your December 22, 2023, response, I agreed with your request for me to wait to determine which transcribed interviews are necessary for this Committee's investigation until after I reviewed VA's internal Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP) investigation report you committed to providing me. Upon reviewing OAWP's report, the documents you sent as part of your still incomplete response to my subpoena<sup>3</sup>, and the mountain of evidence whistleblowers continue to provide to this Committee, key questions that are paramount to ensuring full accountability about which senior leaders knew what, and when they knew it, remain unanswered.

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<sup>1</sup> In September 2023, concerned VA employees who did not trust VA's investigative process contacted the Committee and provided detailed allegations of improper relationships and sexual harassment being perpetrated by ORMDI employees, including ORMDI senior leaders.

<sup>2</sup> See Letters from Chairman Mike Bost to the Honorable Denis McDonough, Secretary, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs dated November 30, 2023, and December 13, 2023.

<sup>3</sup> Pursuant to the Committee's legislative and oversight jurisdiction over veterans matters under House Rule X.1(2), the Committee issued a subpoena on January 12, 2024, to VA to gain evidence held by ORMDI employees directly implicated in the allegations and information from VA employees with leadership and oversight responsibilities above ORMDI.

As such, I am taking your suggestion and amending my previous requests. I ask that the following individuals be made available for transcribed interviews:

1. **Tanya Bradsher**, Deputy Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs;
2. **Kimberly Jackson**, Chief of Staff, Department of Veterans Affairs;
3. **Teri McClelland**, and any other individual, who has acted as VA Executive Secretary between September 1, 2023, and January 31, 2024;
4. **Cassandra Law**, Assistant Secretary, Human Resources and Administration/ Operations, Security and Preparedness, Department of Veterans Affairs;
5. **Jeffrey Mayo**, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Human Resources and Administration/ Operations, Security and Preparedness, Department of Veterans Affairs;
6. **Laura Eskenazi**, Chief of Staff, Human Resources and Administration/Operations, Security and Preparedness, Department of Veterans Affairs;
7. **Dr. Anne-Marie Duncan**, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Resolution Management, Diversity and Inclusion, Department of Veterans Affairs;
8. **Mary Kay Collins**, Management Services Director, Office of Resolution Management, Diversity and Inclusion, Department of Veterans Affairs.

The Committee is seeking this information to investigate what these senior VA employees knew regarding the sexual harassment allegations, when these VA employees knew it, and what, if any, action they took. Please have your staff work with my Committee staff to make the appropriate arrangements for these interviews.

If you have any questions, please coordinate with Sam Kaardal, Professional Staff Member for the majority staff, at [sam.kaardal@mail.house.gov](mailto:sam.kaardal@mail.house.gov) and Thomas Finnigan III, Investigative Counsel for the majority staff, at [thomas.finnigan@mail.house.gov](mailto:thomas.finnigan@mail.house.gov)

Sincerely,



**MIKE BOST**  
Chairman

Cc: The Honorable Mark Takano, Ranking Member