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COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

364 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515

<http://veterans.house.gov>

August 9, 2024

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

Dear Secretary McDonough:

As you know, we are deeply concerned about the sexual harassment, sexual assault, and inappropriate interpersonal relationship allegations coming from the Mountain Home Veterans Affairs Medical Center (Mountain Home VA). Since Chairman Bost's first letter to you on this topic, on July 25, 2024, whistleblowers have been in communication with Committee staff and provided further details on the allegations and information regarding additional allegations of sexual harassment, sexual assault, and improper interpersonal relationships at the Mountain Home VA, which facility leadership allegedly did not address properly, that were previously unknown to Committee staff. This new information is extremely disturbing and leads us to believe there may be a serious culture problem at the Mountain Home VA.

To further our investigation into these allegations of sexual harassment, sexual assault, and improper interpersonal relationships at Mountain Home VA, please provide no later than **Friday, August 30, 2024**, responses to the following questions, including copies of all responsive documents.

1. How many claims of sexual harassment, sexual assault, and/or improper interpersonal relationships have been reported to facility leaders or other facility officials at the Mountain Home VA?
 - a. To whom were these claims reported and when?
 - b. Have Administrative Investigative Boards (AIB) or any other investigative body been convened to investigate these allegations? If so, what is the timeline for completion of those investigations?
 - c. For those claims for which AIBs or other investigations have been completed, what were the outcomes of those investigations?
 - d. Are there any claims currently under review? Are any additional claims pending assignment of an AIB or other investigative body?

2. Please provide copies of all documentation, including all written communications, related to any allegations of sexual harassment, sexual assault, or improper interpersonal relationships against [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED].
3. Please provide copies of all documentation, including all written communications, related to any Administrative Investigations Board (AIB), fact finding, and any other internal investigations related to any accusations of sexual harassment, sexual assault, or improper interpersonal relationships against [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED].
4. Are [REDACTED], [REDACTED], or [REDACTED] currently employed at VA in any capacity? If so, please provide the duty station to which the individual is assigned and the individual's job title and position description. Please indicate whether this individual works in a remote capacity or in-person at a VA facility, and if this individual is in a supervisory or non-supervisory role.
5. Was the VHA Assault and Harassment Prevention Office (AHPO) consulted at any point when allegations of sexual harassment, sexual assault, and improper relationships were brought forward at the Mountain Home VA? If so, please explain how AHPO was engaged in resolving issues related to alleged sexual harassment, sexual assault, or improper interpersonal relationships at Mountain Home VAMC. Please provide any written directives, policies, or other guidance documents covering AHPO functions, roles, and responsibilities.
6. Please identify when Mountain Home VA's Director, Associate Director, and Associate Director for Patient Care Services first became aware, if at all, of the allegations against [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED].

When producing documents, please do not alter them in any way, including but not limited to application of redactions or a watermark. Additionally, digital copies should be provided in a format that enables their printing and copying by the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Thank you for your attention to this important issue. Please do not hesitate to have your staff contact mine with any questions.

Sincerely,



MIKE BOST
Chairman



MARK TAKANO
Ranking Member