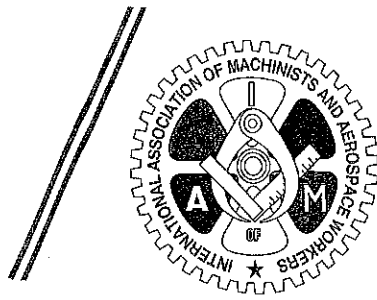


**International
Association of
Machinists and
Aerospace Workers**



9000 Machinists Place
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772-2687

Area Code 301
967-4500



OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

April 20, 2020

Mr. Richard A. Stone, M.D.
Executive in Charge
Veterans Health Administration
810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20420

Dear Mr. Stone,

The members of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM) at the Veterans Administration (VA) are proud to be essential workers serving our country. Serious questions have arisen, however, as to whether our members themselves are being adequately protected at Veterans Administration sites with the onslaught of the COVID-19 pandemic. We are outraged over stories of no or inadequate personal protective equipment, including basic items like masks, soap and hand-sanitizers for workers.

When it comes to the critical work our members do every day, serving and protecting our nation, the Veterans Administration must ensure that the men and women who do the work are protected from COVID-19. The Veterans Administration can start by making sure that workers are supplied with the proper personal protective equipment, including effective masks, soap and hand-sanitizers so that they can perform their jobs. The VA can also start by ensuring that all workplaces are safe and healthy. Among other things, this means that workplaces are properly cleaned and sanitized in a timely manner. And of course, the Veterans Administration must ensure that all CDC guidelines are followed at all times. There can be no exceptions to any of these matters. Lives are at stake.

The response to COVID-19 presents an overwhelming number of challenges for all of us. We can only meet these challenges if we work together, especially when it comes to labor and management. We will be monitoring the Veterans Administration to ensure that workers are protected and that they are never forced to choose between their job and their health.

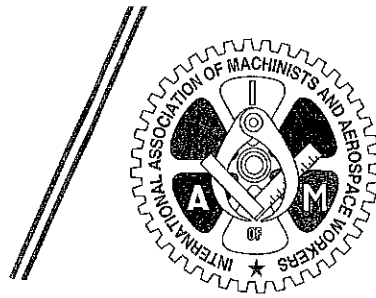
Sincerely,

Robert Martinez, Jr.
International President

RM/tk

cc: Bryant, GVP-Headquarters
Erwin, NP-NFFE/IAM

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OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

April 20, 2020

Mr. Robert Willkie, Secretary of Veterans Affairs
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20420

Dear Secretary Wilkie,

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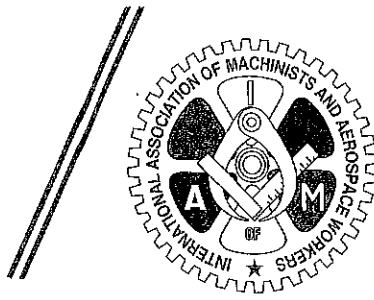
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OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

April 20, 2020

Mr. Michael Missal, Inspector General
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20420

Dear Mr. Missal,

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Robert Martinez, Jr.
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