



**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
**Deputy Assistant Secretary for Acquisition and Logistics**  
**Washington, DC 20420**

**IL 049-08-01**  
**Decmeber 13, 2007**

**OFFICE OF ACQUISITION AND LOGISTICS INFORMATION LETTER**

**TO:** Under Secretaries for Health, Benefits, and Memorial Affairs; Assistant Secretary for Management; Executive-In-Charge, Office of Construction & Facilities Management; Veterans Integrated Service Network Directors; Directors, VA Medical Center Activities, Domiciliary, Outpatient Clinics, Medical and Regional Office Centers, and Regional Offices; Directors, Denver Acquisition and Logistics Center, Austin Automation Center, Records Management Center, VBA Benefits Delivery Centers, and the VA Health Administration Center; and the Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer, VA National Acquisition Center

**ATTN:** Head of the Contracting Activity, VA Contracting Officers

**SUBJ:** New Alignment of Contract Legal Counsel Responsibilities

1. This Information Letter (IL) provides notice to contracting officers that the Office of General Counsel (OGC) will transfer responsibility for providing legal counsel on certain procurement matters specifically identified below, including legal review responsibilities, to Regional Counsel, effective January 1, 2008. The Regional Counsel (RC) presently responsible for providing legal counsel to management and staff of VA facilities in other areas of law, e.g., personnel and medical malpractice, is the RC that will be responsible for providing procurement counsel on matters set forth below. The link to RC offices and VA facilities for which they are responsible is <http://vaww.client.gc.va.gov/offices/rc/>.

2. The matters being transferred will include those originating at the field level and will encompass legal reviews from the presolicitation stage through contract dispute resolution. The affected actions shall include the following:

- Minor VHA Facilities Construction (under \$10M)
- Non-Recurring Maintenance VHA Facilities (no \$ threshold)
- \*VBA minor construction (VBA's construction program is de minimus, the majority of its space is acquired via leasing)
- Supplies & services (except any supply or service contracts issued by any of the entities named in paragraph 3 as work PSG V is retaining)
- 38 USC § 8153 Sharing Agreements

2.  
IL 049-08-01  
December 13, 2007

- Task orders issued in accordance with the September 2007 National Memorandum of Understanding between Corp of Engineers and VA

3. The following matters will remain under the purview of Professional Staff Group V:

- Major VHA and NCA Construction
- All NCA Contract Matters
- Major Leases: Leases over \$600,000 annual rental or more than 10,000 net usable square feet
- National Acquisition Center
- Denver Acquisition and Logistics Center
- Health Administration Center (Denver) Matters
- Austin Automation Center
- All IT Buys: Hardware, Software, Licenses, notwithstanding contracting activity
- Contracts developed and awarded by Central Office's OA&L
- Economy Act and Other Government Agency Agreements
- 38 USC §8111 VA – DoD Sharing Agreements
- Tricare Agreements
- Utility Agreements & Energy Savings Performance Contracts

4. All documents requiring legal review and/or concurrence should be forwarded to either the Regional Counsel or to Professional Staff Group V.

Please direct any questions concerning this IL to 202-461-6876 or 202-461-6859 in the Acquisition Policy Division (049P1A).

/s/Barbara Latvanas  
Acting Director  
Acquisition Policy

Distribution RPC 7029