



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Medical Center
Alexandria, Louisiana 71306-9004

March 29, 2011

In Reply Refer To: 502/00PA

- The Honorable Charles W. Boustany, Jr., M.D.
Lafayette District Office
800 Lafayette Street, Suite 1400
Lafayette, LA 70501

Dear Congressman Boustany:

It has come to my attention that there are concerns regarding the status of VA clinics in South Louisiana. I want to bring you up to date on the plans for our new community based outpatient clinic (CBOC) in Lake Charles as well as the expansion of our existing CBOC in Lafayette.

Lafayette CBOC: The solicitation for offer (SFO) was distributed to interested offerors on February 3, 2011 with proposals due by March 31, 2011. Due to an error in the SFO where square footage was noted once as gross square footage and in another area as net usable square footage, an extension of the due date to April 15, 2011 will be made. This will allow the interested offers an additional 15 days to address this, if necessary. Proposals will be reviewed by a Technical Review Board and a recommendation made to me within 30-60 days of April 15, 2011. Contract award is expected on or about June 15, 2011, which will add two additional weeks to the original award date.

Lake Charles CBOC: Proposals were received in response to the SFO and then evaluated by a Technical Review Board. The final evaluation identified one site as not meeting the criteria listed in the SFO. The Technical Review Board identified some deficiencies in the second proposal; however, Purchasing and Contracting will be working with the offeror to negotiate a resolution to these issues. If the issues cannot be resolved through negotiation, we will have to go out with a build to suit proposal for another 30-60 days.

We thank you for your continued support of VA services for the Veterans of Louisiana. It is our desire to offer new and expanded services to all of our Veterans and bring health care closer to the communities in which they live. We will provide our next bi-monthly update by May 31, 2011. Should you require anything before that time, please contact my office at (318) 466-2205 or email me at gracie.specks2@va.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gracie Specks".

Gracie Specks, MS, MBA
Medical Center Director

cc: Mr. George H. Gray, Jr.
Network Director, South Central VA Health Care Network