

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Between

United States Department of Veterans Affairs

And

League of United Latin American Citizens

I. PURPOSE:

This Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) is entered into between the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA or Department), 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420, and the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), 1133 19th Street, NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20036, collectively referred to as the "Parties." This MoA sets forth a structure in which both entities will work in a mutually beneficial manner on a common mission to serve America's Veterans, their family members, and survivors.

VA and LULAC seek a stronger relationship that will deliver improved quality of care and services for America's Veterans. The hallmarks of this relationship will be effective communication, exchange of ideas and information, identification of emerging needs, and continuous reevaluation of existing programs. The Department and LULAC share a common goal of more uniform, efficient, and effective programs that assure a seamless continuum of care and services for Veterans at the Federal and State levels.

II. BACKGROUND:

Department of Veterans Affairs

VA's mission is to fulfill President Lincoln's promise "[t]o care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow, and his orphan" by serving and honoring America's Veterans in accordance with Federal law. The Department has identified three strategic goals in advancing this mission: 1) Empower Veterans to improve their well-being, including ending Veteran homelessness; 2) Enhance and develop trusted partnerships; and 3) Manage and improve VA operations to deliver seamless and integrated support. The Department has identified these primary goals and set priority milestones across the Department and VA Administrations.

VA enters into this MoA pursuant to the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs under 38 United States Code (U.S.C.) § 523 to effectively coordinate the provision of VA benefits and services (and information about such benefits and services) with appropriate programs (and information about such programs) conducted by State and local government agencies and by private entities. VA also relies on the Secretary's outreach authority under 38 U.S.C. § 6303, to ensure that all Veterans are provided

timely and appropriate assistance to aid and encourage them in applying for and obtaining VA benefits and services and, in so doing, to cooperate with State or local governmental agencies and recognized national or other organizations.

League of United Latin American Citizens

The Mission of the League of United Latin American Citizens is to advance the economic condition, educational attainment, political influence, housing, health, and civil rights of the Hispanic population of the United States.

With approximately 132,000 members throughout the United States and Puerto Rico, LULAC is the largest and oldest Hispanic organization in the United States. LULAC advances the economic condition, educational attainment, political influence, housing, health and civil rights of Hispanic Americans through community-based programs operating at more than 1,000 LULAC councils nationwide. The organization involves and serves all Hispanic nationality groups.

III. RESPONSIBILITIES:

Department of Veterans Affairs:

1. Provide Administrations, VA Staff Offices, and other VA organizations with information regarding this MoA and LULAC's mission, services, and new Veterans Affairs Program;
2. Collaborate with LULAC on legislative priorities, new VA initiatives, and/or major enterprises to the extent VA determines it to be appropriate and practicable, so that impacts, resources, and outcomes may be better addressed and synchronized;
3. Coordinate with LULAC on meaningful outreach and innovative strategies to provide a positive Veterans experience, to include pilot programs, grant opportunities, and updates to VA programs and services to the extent VA determines it to be appropriate and practicable;
4. Identify emerging and/or unmet needs of Veterans and their families and engage with LULAC in reciprocal discussions and deliberations on potential responses and solutions;
5. Support technical assistance for LULAC to become a certified Veterans Service Organization, thereby ensuring Hispanic Veterans have full access to the VA benefits and services they earned;

6. Participate in and conduct Veteran outreach during LULAC career fairs, workshops, and Annual State and National Conventions, as appropriate and budget permitting; and
7. Include the LULAC Federal Training Institute program as one of VA's Office of Human Resources and Administration's approved training and professional development opportunities, which would help VA:
 - a. Improve the effectiveness of its efforts to recruit, hire, promote, retain, develop, and train a diverse and inclusive workforce; and
 - b. Meet its obligations under Executive Order 13583: Establishing a Coordinated Government-wide Initiative to Promote Diversity and Inclusion in the Federal Workforce.

League of United Latin American Citizens:

1. Increase Veteran awareness of VA's health, education, training, counseling, financial, and burial benefits and services;
2. Develop and support outreach initiatives to stakeholders, including actively disseminating VA materials and communications to Veterans, families, and local media outlets;
3. Assist in the prevention and elimination of Veteran homelessness;
4. Aid Veterans in their transition from active duty, encourage the use of the Post-9/11 GI Bill, and assist Veterans to obtain employment and/or business development;
5. Collaborate with local VA facilities and Veteran service agencies to improve the Veteran experience through quality and accessible health care, benefits, and memorial services within the Hispanic Veteran community;
6. Provide leadership and career development training curricula to VA employees during LULAC's Federal Training Institute program;
7. Encourage local medical and mental health professionals, clinics, and students to partner with local VA facilities to increase Veteran access to care in the community;
8. Encourage talented candidates to apply for critical staff positions at VA facilities by disseminating VA job announcements in social media and at LULAC events;

9. Support access to affordable housing and homeownership, when appropriate, through the VA Home Loan Guaranty Program; and
10. Provide an annual report of legislative resolutions and State best practices that exemplify VA strategic goals.

IV. OBJECTIVES:

The Department and LULAC share a common goal to facilitate accessible, timely, and quality care for America's Veterans, their families, and survivors. Collaboration between the Parties will be mutually beneficial as they work together to achieve this goal. This MoA sets forth a framework of intent and cooperation between the Parties to achieve the following objectives:

1. Improve the Veteran experience in accessing VA benefits and the delivery of health care and other services provided by VA and LULAC;
2. End chronic Veteran homelessness; and
3. Increase human capital capacity of VA staff to improve the retention of Federal employees and continuity of service delivery to Veterans.

V. POINTS OF CONTACT:

**DEPARTMENT OF
VETERANS AFFAIRS**

James Albino
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Suite 915
Washington, DC 20420
(202) 461-7400
James.Albino@va.gov

**LEAGUE OF UNITED
LATIN AMERICAN CITIZENS**

Roman Palomares
Chairman
League of United Latin American Citizens
LULAC Veterans Affairs Committee
1133 19th Street, NW
Suite 100
Washington, DC 20036
682-429-7363
Paloma@swbell.net

VI. LIMITATIONS:

1. LULAC will not use this MoA to sell or promote any products or services.
2. LULAC will not use the name of the Department or any of its components, except in factual publicity and with prior approval of the Department. Factual publicity includes announcements of dates, times, locations, purposes, agendas, speakers, and fees, if any, involved in Veteran-related activities or events. Such

factual publicity shall not imply that the involvement of VA serves as an endorsement of the general policies, activities, or products of LULAC. Where the publicity references the Department, the publicity will be accompanied by a disclaimer to the effect that no VA endorsement is intended. LULAC may use VA's logo, seals, flags, and other symbols only pursuant to a written determination by VA that the proposed use by LULAC advances the aims, purposes, and mission of the Department. VA approval is not guaranteed.

3. VA will not use, and has obtained no ownership interest in, LULAC or other LULAC names, logos, and/or trademarks (the Marks). VA will obtain LULAC's prior written approval to use the Marks.
4. This Agreement is not intended to be an exclusive arrangement. The relationship established in this Agreement in no way limits VA or LULAC from establishing similar relationships with any other entity.
5. This Agreement does not represent any endorsement by VA of the general policies, activities, or products of LULAC.
6. Any publicity released by either party concerning this MoA, the services or support provided within, or any resulting outcome, is subject to prior approval of the other party.
7. Each party shall bear its own costs, risks, and liabilities arising out of its responsibilities and efforts under this MoA. No party to this MoA can commit the other to any cost, expense, or obligation without the prior written consent of that party.
8. This MoA may not be assigned or otherwise transferred by any party, in whole or in part, without the express, prior, written consent of the other party, which shall not be unreasonably withheld.

VII. DURATION, AMENDMENT, REVIEW, AND TERMINATION:

This agreement is effective when signed by both parties and will remain in effect until terminated by either party. Amendments must be bilaterally executed in writing and signed by authorized representatives of both Parties. No oral or unilateral amendment is effective. Only terminations in accordance with the terms of this agreement may be completed unilaterally.

This agreement will be reviewed annually for compliance and effectiveness.

This agreement may only be terminated in writing with 60 days' notice sent from the authorized representative of the terminating party to the authorized representative of the

other party. In no case will any oral termination be effective, nor will any termination attempted outside these stated requirements be effective.

VIII. APPROVALS:

DEPARTMENT OF
VETERANS AFFAIRS

LEAGUE OF UNITED
LATIN AMERICAN CITIZENS

By: Robert A. McDonald
Robert A. McDonald
Secretary
Department of Veterans Affairs

By: Roger C. Rocha Jr.
Roger Rocha
National President
League of United Latin American Citizens

Date: 7/12/16

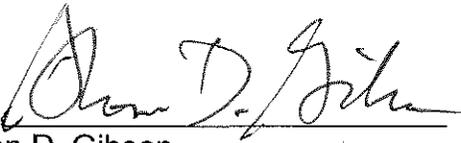
Date: 7/12/16

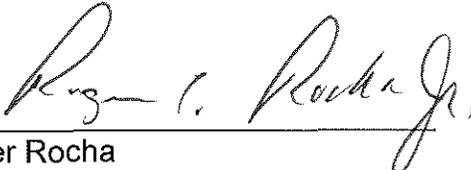
other party. In no case will any oral termination be effective, nor will any termination attempted outside these stated requirements be effective.

VIII. APPROVALS:

DEPARTMENT OF
VETERANS AFFAIRS

LEAGUE OF UNITED
LATIN AMERICAN CITIZENS

By: 
Sloan D. Gibson
Deputy Secretary
Department of Veterans Affairs

By: 
Roger Rocha
National President
League of United Latin American Citizens

Date: _____

Date: _____