

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

June 06, 2014

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We call on you to ensure our nation's veterans are no longer subjected to appalling treatment at many Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care facilities. The VA has a systemic, cultural problem that must be corrected immediately. The organization whose purpose is to support those who answered the call to serve is failing our veterans and the nation through criminal fraud and deception. America's heroes deserve better.

Our offices have received numerous cries for help from our constituents in central Texas concerning reports of criminal mismanagement and deception at VA facilities. Given the endless investigative media reports, the discouraging update from the VA Office of the Inspector General's (OIG) Interim Report, as well as the VA's own internal audit revealing that Phoenix is not an isolated incident, we remain deeply concerned about the actual care veterans are receiving at VA facilities in central Texas. Our concerns specifically include allegations that VA employees are "cooking the books" to meet quotas for financial gain and that veterans are put on extensive secret waiting lists while they suffer in pain.

Secretary Shinseki's resignation will not solve the widespread problems facing the VA. We call on you to immediately instruct the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to conduct an outside, independent investigation into these claims of wrongdoing at central Texas VA facilities. While the VA's Office of Inspector General is aggressively seeking answers to allegations of misconduct at numerous Texas VA facilities, internal investigations have only served to quell public outrage while allowing these atrocious practices to continue. Only the FBI, the world's leading law enforcement agency, is able to properly investigate these criminal allegations.

Our veterans in central Texas and across the country deserve far better from our nation's leaders. We must end the culture of complacency that is jeopardizing patient safety within the VA health care system.

Sincerely,



Blake Farenthold



Roger Williams



Mind McCal