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Honorable Eric Shinseki
Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs
1722 I St NW
Washington, DC 20421

Dear Secretary Shinseki,

I would like to bring your attention to an incident involving one of my constituents that demonstrates the absolutely urgency in completing a comprehensive investigation of failures and shortages within our Veteran's Health Administration in Arizona and around the country. I ask that your office fully examine the details of this case and provide answers to the lapse and inaccessibility of care for this individual.

In 2013, Gilford Anderson, a Vietnam War marine veteran sought care at the VA. According to *AZ Republic* reports, Anderson suffered complications after a procedure performed at the Phoenix Veteran's Affairs hospital last December. He subsequently received care in emergency rooms due to his inability to get care at the VA urology clinic. The *AZ Republic* reports that care provided during following visits was insufficient and fragmented and that scheduled visits to the urology clinic were regularly canceled. Sadly, we lost Gilford Anderson this past May 10.

We owe it to not only Mr. Anderson's family, but to military families around the country, to get the bottom of these tragic occurrences. Each of the nearly 9 million veterans the VA cares for must be treated with the high-quality and timely service that we know the VA is capable of providing. It is clear those of us in Congress must take immediate actions to provide the Veterans Administration with adequate financial resources and leadership to properly meet the increasing needs of our service members.

Many veterans in this country are proud to receive their care through the VA. I share your commitment to fix these problems and to make the Veterans Health Administration a model of excellence. We cannot let one more case like this happen. I would like a thorough review of Mr. Anderson's case – we must provide these families with answers. I appreciate your commitment and service to our country and look forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely,


Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress