

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 18, 2015

Ms. Patricia Ten Haaf
Acting Medical Center Director
VA St. Louis Health Care System
John Cochran Division
915 North Grand Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63106

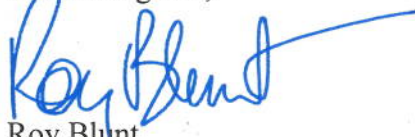
Dear Director Ten Haaf,

The care of our nation's veterans is a top priority for all of us. As a result, we express our concerns with the latest findings in the Combined Assessment Program (CAP) review regarding the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) St. Louis Health Care System. This review was conducted and released by the Office of Healthcare Inspections within the VA's Office of Inspector General (OIG) on May 18, 2015.

The CAP review included forty-five individual recommendations related to the quality and environment of care delivered at the VA St. Louis Health Care System's facility. These recommendations addressed a range of issues, from sanitation-related hazards to management inconsistencies. In addition, VA Heartland Network Director William Patterson, MD, MSS, and VA St. Louis Health Care System Deputy Medical Center Director Keith Repko each provided comments concurring with the review's findings and confirmed the development of action plans to address these recommendations.

As you are aware, you are the seventh acting medical director of the VA St. Louis Health Care system over the last two years. The high turn-over rate in this position and others could very well be a compounding factor in the issues raised in the CAP review. We request to be kept informed on the implementation plan and specific corrective actions as you move forward. Our veterans have earned and deserve the very best in treatment and services.

Sincere regards,



Roy Blunt
United States Senator



Claire McCaskill
United States Senator