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TONY McCLAIN, STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 11, 2024

JERRY MORAN, KANSAS RANKING MEMBER JOHN BOOZMAN, ARKANSAS BILL CASSIDY, LOUISIANA MIKE ROUNDS, SOUTH DAKOTA THOM TILLIS, NORTH CAROLINA DAN SULLIVAN, ALASKA MARSHA BLACKBURN, TENNESSEE KEVIN CRAMER, NORTH DAKOTA TOMMY TUBERVILLE, ALABAMA

DAVID SHEARMAN, STAFF DIRECTOR

The Honorable Denis R. McDonough Secretary of Veterans Affairs 810 Vermont Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20420

Dear Mr. Secretary,

We are writing to request information regarding the Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) ongoing investigation into allegations of sexual harassment and related matters in VA's Office of Resolution Management, Diversity & Inclusion (ORMDI).

Harassment of any kind cannot be tolerated in the workplace, including and especially in an office such as ORMDI, which sets the standards and should be the example for the Department's workplace conduct. Equally important is the protection of whistleblowers – ensuring no retaliation occurs against individuals who raise concerns about how they are being treated in the workplace.

While making these requests for documents and information, we are sensitive to the fact that some of the issues may involve ongoing investigations and potential administrative reviews involving employees. For that reason, we want to assure you the information provided to the Committee will be safeguarded appropriately as it is paramount that the Department's existing or future disciplinary actions or investigations related to these matters not be impacted by any inappropriate disclosures.

We are requesting the following documents and information:

- 1. The results of any investigations conducted related to these matters including any transcripts and final investigatory report(s) from the Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection and other relevant offices;
- 2. A summary of the leadership and personnel changes made in response to the ongoing review(s) to include those that are temporary or permanent;
- 3. A summary of steps taken to protect the rights of whistleblowers involved in this matter;
- 4. A summary of corrective actions taken since the allegations were first raised; and
- 5. A briefing to Committee staff to review the contents of the documents, provide an update on current status, and answer any questions.

Please provide the requested documents and information to the Majority and Minority staff of the Committee on a rolling basis and do not wait for all materials or information to be assembled before initiating transmission.

If the Department has any questions regarding this request, please have your staff contact Janko Mitric of the Majority staff or Jon VanderPlas of the Minority staff. Thank you for your prompt attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Jon Tester Chairman

Jerry Moran Ranking Member