



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

ELIZABETH DUDEK
SECRETARY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: AHCA Communications Office

AHCACommunications@ahca.myflorida.com, 850-412-3623

Statement from AHCA concerning VA Hospital Inspections

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – In light of recent reports of injuries and deaths to veterans at federal Veterans Affairs hospitals, earlier this week Governor Rick Scott called for the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration to take immediate action to shine a light on the processes of federal Veterans Affairs hospitals in Florida. The Agency attempted to complete an onsite review this morning at West Palm Beach VA Medical Center.

Liz Dudek, Secretary of the Agency for Health Care Administration said, “This morning, two surveyors went to the West Palm Beach VA Medical Center at 10:15 a.m. and were escorted out around 11:15 after being declined the opportunity to review any records at that time. They were told an official response would be provided from the VA’s national office in Washington D.C.

“Florida’s veterans who have so bravely fought to defend and protect our nation deserve quality health care, and I am disappointed in the federal government’s lack of transparency to this point. We look forward to hearing back from the VA very soon so we can continue the dialogue about how the Agency can review their processes so any shortcomings can be promptly identified and addressed.”

The Agency for Health Care Administration is committed to better health care for all Floridians. The Agency administers Florida’s Medicaid program, licenses and regulates more than 45,000 health care facilities and 37 health maintenance organizations, and publishes health care data and statistics at www.FloridaHealthFinder.gov. Additional information about Agency initiatives is available via [Facebook \(AHCAFlorida\)](#), [Twitter \(@AHCA_FL\)](#) and [YouTube \(/AHCAFlorida\)](#).

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