



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs

**New York/New Jersey VA Health Care Network**

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March 20, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) New York/New Jersey Healthcare System (VISN 2) is the basic operating unit and regional office for all U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs healthcare services in New York and New Jersey. Our healthcare system serves over 250,000 Veterans in these states.

VISN 2 is the coordinating Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for COVID-19 for nine VA medical centers and 59 VA community clinics in New York and New Jersey. We activated our EOC in response to COVID-19 concerns on March 1, 2020. The VA EOC is operating seven days per week.

The bearer of this letter is a critical employee of VA New York/New Jersey Healthcare System, VISN 2, and part of our COVID-19 response team supporting Veterans health across the region. This letter, along with the employee's Personal Identity Verification (PIV) badge, can be used to verify their identity and status as an essential VA employee. Our VA healthcare system and VISN 2 employees need to report to work daily in support of VA's COVID-19 response and recovery efforts as we endeavor to manage this crisis on behalf of New York and New Jersey Veterans.

If you have any questions, please contact me at [Joan.McInerney@va.gov](mailto:Joan.McInerney@va.gov) or 718-741-4134.

Sincerely,

JOAN MCINERNEY, MD, MBA, MA, FACEP  
Network Director, Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) 2  
VA New York/New Jersey Health Care System