



CONCERNED
VETERANS
FOR AMERICA

TO: President Barack Obama
DATE: March 28, 2013

SUBJECT: Veterans Petition: Relieve Secretary Shinseki & end the #MillionVetBacklog

Dear President Obama,

Secretary Shinseki is an honorable man, with a sterling military background and the best of intentions. Unfortunately, his impressive military career has not translated into success as the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA). With the backlog of pending VA disability claims fast approaching **one million veterans**, it is time for your White House to stop making excuses and start delivering results. Only Presidential leadership can end the **#MillionVetBacklog**.

Empty Promises

Following your election in 2008 and the appointment of Secretary Shinseki you vowed to fix the VA claims backlog. Instead, it got exponentially worse increasing by 2,000% in just four years. This failure of leadership is unacceptable, especially for a wartime President.

Countless Excuses

Secretary Shinseki recently did his first nationally televised interview in four years, making excuses for the department's poor performance rather than taking responsibility for the bureaucratic nightmare. Leaders lead, not make excuses. Four years of excuses is enough.

Too Many Failures

Good intentions are not good enough. *Results matter*. Real men and women are counting on a VA bureaucracy that refuses to change. It's time for new leadership that will reform a bloated bureaucracy, join the digital age, and deliver timely services for veterans.

Secretary Shinseki himself acknowledges the **#MillionVetBacklog** is not a funding issue; VA's budget has increased by \$25 billion since 2009. Military commanders given a mission and necessary resources are not allowed to fail for four years and keep their job. Nor should Secretary Shinseki. His time is up. It's time for new leadership, and a bold vision to reform the VA bureaucracy.

Enclosed you will find signatures of United States Veterans, their family members and supporters who agree: **relieve Secretary Shinseki & end the #MillionVetBacklog!**

