



**Department of Veterans Affairs
CARES Commission
Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services**

**Vice Chairman R. John Vogel
Commissioner Dr. Layton McCurdy, Hearing Chair
Commissioner Jo Ann Webb
Commissioner Major General Michael Wyrick, USAF (Ret.)**

**Agenda
September 12, 2003
Durham Marriott at the Civic Center
201 Foster Street
Durham, North Carolina
10:00 am – 2:00 pm**

TOPIC: Review of the Draft National CARES Plan for VISN 6

The CARES Commission is an independent commission chartered with the responsibility to provide the Secretary with recommendations on the Under Secretary for Health's Draft National CARES Plan. The Commission may accept, modify or reject the recommendations in this draft plan. In making its recommendations, the Commission will consider information gained through site visits, written comments from all stakeholders and public hearings.

Witnesses submitted written comments prior to the hearing in accordance with procedures of a public hearing. Witnesses are grouped in panels to present comments. Witnesses, except the Network Director, are asked to adhere to a five-minute statement so Commissioners will have time to ask questions of the witnesses. Questions for panelists will be limited to the Commissioners.

Everyone is encouraged to submit written comments on the Draft National CARES Plan until October 20, 2003. Comments about this hearing may be submitted today and for the next ten calendar days. Outside of the hearing room, computer operators are available to assist individuals in preparing written comments to the Commission and will accept hand written comments forms. Additionally, comments on the testimony or the Draft Plan may be submitted on the web site at www.carescommission@va.gov, or Marked "Comments" to:

Richard E. Larson, Executive Director
CARES Commission
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, N.W. (00 CARES)
Washington, D.C. 20420
Or via facsimile at (202) 501-2196.

**SEPTEMBER 12, 2003
DURHAM HEARING (VISN 6)
PANEL OF WITNESSES**

<p>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Mr. Wally Tyson (Dept. Adjutant, DAV NC) OPENING REMARKS – COMMISSIONER MCCURDY</p>	<p>10:00 - 10:15</p>
<p>Panel #1 Daniel F. Hoffman, FACHE, Network Director VA Mid-Atlantic health Care Network, accompanied by: Mark Shelhorse, M.D., VISN Chief Medical Officer; Al Brese, VISN Chief Financial Officer; Jerry Husson, Director of the Beckley, WV VAMC and VISN CARES Workgroup Chairman; Daniel Mueller, VISN Planning Manager; and Pamela Howell, VISN Communications Manager.</p>	<p>10:15 – 11:15</p>
<p>Panel #2 Mr. John Allen, Paralyzed Veterans of America Mr. William Pack, Department Service Officer, The American Legion Mr. James O. Ward, Service Officer, Veterans of Foreign Wars Mr. Wallace Tyson, Department Adjutant, Disabled American Veterans</p>	<p>11:15 – 12:00</p>
<p>Panel #3 Mr. C.L. Bert Boyd, Director Department of Veterans Affairs, Commonwealth of Virginia Mr. Art DeWitt, Chairman, Blue Ridge Advocates for Veterans Outpatient Services Mr. Charles Smith, Director, North Carolina Division of Veterans Affairs Mr. Jacob Stafford, Member West Virginia VISN 6 Veterans Advisory Council</p>	<p>12:00 – 12:45</p>
<p>Panel #4 Mr. Edward Burnett, President, AFGE Local, 1739, VAMC Salem Mr. Bob Fetzer, President 4th District AFGE, VISN 6 Liaison for AFGE Ms. Sandra McCormick, NAGE Local R4-17, VAMC Hampton Ms. Jacqueline Parrish, President, AFGE Local 2345, VAMC Durham</p>	<p>12:45 – 1:15</p>
<p>Panel #5 Dr. William Applegate, Dean Wake Forrest University School of Medicine Colonel June Carraher, USAF, US Air Force Hospital, Langley AFB</p>	<p>1:15– 1:45</p>
<p>Congressional Statements Senator Rockefeller Congressman Forbes Congressman McIntyre</p>	