



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
Bay Pines VA Healthcare System  
Post Office Box 5005  
Bay Pines, Florida 33744

Commission  
Office  
RECEIVED

OCT 27 2025

10:15a.m.

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10/15/2025

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EACH COMMISSIONER

In Reply Refer To:  
516/001VEO

Mr. Joseph Tiseo  
18500 Murdock Circle, Suite 536  
Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Dear Commissioner Tiseo:

This letter is in response to your recent inquiry to Secretary of the Veterans Affairs and was forwarded to the Bay Pines VA Healthcare System (BPVAHCS) regarding your constituents and their care at the Port Charlotte VA Clinic. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) remains committed to honoring our nation's Veterans by ensuring a safe environment to deliver exceptional health care.

It is important to inform you that the VA intends to transition services from the current Port Charlotte VA Clinic to a new replacement clinic in North Port, FL. Planning for this project began in 2020. During the planning process, one significant barrier encountered in locating a new site near the Port Charlotte clinic was the difficulty in finding a suitable property that met our leasing requirements. At that time, only one property had been identified. To address this issue, the VA requested lease proposals in an expanded area, which included Charlotte, DeSoto, and Sarasota Counties. During the solicitation process for site selection, several offers were evaluated. Of the four offers that were received, three were deemed acceptable and met our requirements. After careful consideration, the North Port location was selected as it provides the best value to the government while complying with our requirements.

We understand the concerns about accessibility and transportation challenges for Veterans residing in Charlotte County. Please be assured that the VA is committed to ensuring that the transition to the new clinic will be as smooth as possible.

Thank you for your continued support and advocacy on behalf of the Veterans in Charlotte County. We value your input and will continue to work diligently to meet the healthcare needs of our Veterans. If you have further questions about this correspondence, you may contact BPVAHCS Office of Public Affairs at VHABAY Public Affairs [VHABAYPublicAffairs@va.gov](mailto:VHABAYPublicAffairs@va.gov).

Sincerely,

*Derek D. Szafranski*

Derek D. Szafranski, PhD, FACHE  
Interim Healthcare System Director/CEO