

Anthony O'Connell
439 South Vista Del Rio
Green Valley, Arizona 85614
June 13, 2013

Senator John McCain
241 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator McCain:

If the VA in Arizona continues to withhold my medicines it will kill me. I live on the poverty line and can't afford the meds. Please ask your staff to look at <http://www.stoppedmedicine.com> and <http://www.followthetrails.com> . There are tons of covers.

The Director is not supposed to withhold the Veteran's meds and pretend he doesn't know what the problem is or to attack the Veteran's character. Suggested questions:

- (1) Why were the Veteran's medicines stopped?
- (2) Why is the Veteran being led to believe that they were not stopped?
- (3) What does "0 refills remaining" mean to you?
- (3) What is the intent?
- (4) Why is this Veteran treated differently from other veterans?

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Anthony OConnell 7637



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Southern Arizona VA Health Care System
Tucson, AZ 85723

RECEIVED JUL 15 2013

JUL 12 2013

In Reply Refer To: 678/0-002A

The Honorable John McCain
United States Senator
407 West Congress Street, Suite 103
Tucson, AZ 85701
Attn: Suzanne Hernandez

Dear Senator McCain:

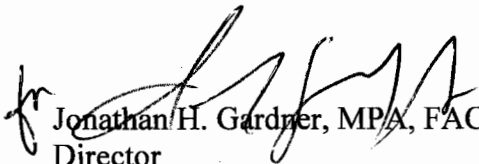
This is in response to your letter dated June 19, 2013, regarding your constituent, Mr. Anthony OConnell and his concerns at the Green Valley Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) of the Southern Arizona VA Health Care System (SAVAHCS). I requested that Mr. John Altevers, Administrative Officer, Community Clinics Care Line, address his concerns.

Mr. OConnell expressed several concerns in his letter to you but specifically asked questions about his prescription renewals, his treatment, and obtaining his living will. Mr. OConnell's current medications were not stopped and were refilled promptly at his request since October 2012. Many medications are renewed annually. In order for Mr. OConnell to obtain further medication refills, he can schedule an appointment with his provider at the Green Valley CBOC by calling (520) 399-2291. If Mr. OConnell needs refills prior to October 2013; he should contact the pharmacy refill line, at (520) 470-8262 and select option four. Mr. OConnell also contacted his provider several times asking that his living will be returned to him. He was advised each time to contact the Release of Information (ROI) office located at the main VA hospital to obtain his living will, as it is not available at the clinic. Mr. OConnell can reach the ROI office at (520) 792-1450, extension 6923.

These are standard VA procedures and all Veterans are provided the same guidance to receive medication refills and to obtain copies of their computerized medical information.

The SAVAHCS strives to provide quality and compassionate care to all of our Veterans. We are very concerned with patient care and the satisfaction of the Veterans we serve. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mr. John Altevers at (520) 792-1450, extension 4042.

Sincerely,


Jonathan H. Gardner, MPA, FACHE
Director
Southern Arizona
VA Health Care System