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## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Martinsburg VAMC chief nurse retiring**

MARTINSBURG, W.Va. – The Martinsburg Veterans Affairs Medical Center’s Associate Director of Patient Care Services (Nurse Executive) Susan E. George, RN, BSN, MPH, NEA-BC, will retire effective August 1, 2015.

Ms. George has had a rich and varied career with the Department of Veterans Affairs, working in almost every area of nursing. Her past locations include: Gainesville VA Medical Center, Gainesville, Florida, James A. Haley VA Medical Center, Tampa, Florida and Richmond VA Medical Center, Richmond, Virginia.

George was the Operative Services nurse that researched and was a key contributor in the development of the first computerized surgical medical record for the operating room, which continues to be used on a national level in the Veterans Health Administration (VHA).

George was honored with a Military Order of the Purple Heart Distinguished Service Award and the 2011 West Virginia Center for Nursing “Celebrating Nursing Excellence” Award in the “Excellence in Nursing Leadership” category. In 2013, Ms. George received the Secretary of Veterans Affairs Award for Excellence in Nursing and for the Advancement of Nursing Programs.

In March 2011, she was instrumental in Nursing Service receiving the American Nurses Credentialing Center Pathway to Excellence® designation, the first Nursing Service in the VHA and the first health-care facility in West Virginia to receive this prestigious certification.

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## 222- Martinsburg VAMC chief nurse retiring

“Everyday her focus has been the Veterans we take care of, serving her nurses and improving the work experience for all our staff.” said Timothy J. Cooke, medical center director. “It has been a pleasure, privilege, and honor to work alongside her.”

**Photo Caption:** Associate Director of Patient Care Services (Nurse Executive) Susan E. George, RN, BSN, MPH, NEA-BC

*The Martinsburg VA Medical Center mission is to honor America’s Veterans by providing exceptional health care that improves their health and well-being. Located in West Virginia, the medical center offers a comprehensive range of services, including internal medicine, ambulatory surgery, audiology and speech pathology, dental, nursing home, nutrition, podiatry, prosthetics, women’s health, mental health, and rehabilitation medicine. With a service area of nearly 125,000 Veterans in West Virginia, Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania, the medical center operates seven Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC). Six of the clinics are VA-staffed and are located in Cumberland, Hagerstown and Fort Detrick, Maryland; Petersburg and Franklin, West Virginia, and Stephens City, Virginia. One of the clinics is contracted and is located in Harrisonburg, Virginia.*