

RON DeSANTIS  
6TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
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March 9, 2015

The Honorable Gene L. Dodaro  
Comptroller General  
Government Accountability Office  
441 G St. NW  
Washington, DC 20548

Dear Comptroller General Dodaro,

The Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) is currently in the process of awarding contract of a permanent replacement Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) for Saint Johns County (SJC), FL. The Saint Johns County (SJC) Administrators have expressed serious concern over the veteran population demographics being used in this decision. They believe the DVA statistics are seriously flawed and outdated.

To that regard, the County directed their Land Management Department to determine the geographic center of the SJC veteran's population. This Geographic Information System (GIS) study was completed and delivered to the DVA. To date the DVA has yet to acknowledge to the County its receipt. However, senior DVA staff have voiced to members of my staff that "they have better information than the SJC GIS study." The SJC Administrators and Commissioners have voiced that "it is inconceivable that a veteran population study showing only a single veteran in the third fastest growing community in the United States (Nocatee) would be their document of choice."

My decision to request oversight by your organization is intended to prevent an erroneous decision from being made. A replacement CBOC located outside the center of the veteran population would have a long lasting negative impact to our veterans. Therefore, I would like to request that the GAO examine the DVA's source and accuracy of their demographics before a final site selection is made.

Thank you for your timely attention to this request. If you have any additional questions, please contact Randy Stapleford in my Florida district office at [randy.stapleford@mail.house.gov](mailto:randy.stapleford@mail.house.gov) or at (904) 827-1101.

Sincerely,



Ron DeSantis  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Robert A. McDonald  
Secretary of Veterans Affairs  
810 Vermont Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20420