

Mary Jean Burke, is the First Executive Vice President of AFGE National VA Council.

“MJ” as she likes to be known, started her labor career when AFGE Local 609 in Indianapolis, when it was consolidated to represent the professionals at the Richard Roudebush VA Medical Center. After growing up on a farm in East Central Illinois, she eventually landed as a Physical Therapist in 1995 at the Richard Roudebush VA Medical Center in Indianapolis.

Originally, appointed in 2002 by the National VA Council, to serve as a National Safety Representative. She was first elected as the 1st Executive Vice President in November 2007 and is currently serving her third term in that position. MJ is an active member Legislative Committee, Grievance and Arbitration Committee, National Hybrid Collaboration Team and is a member of the National Partnership Council. She was also a member of the NVAC Negotiating Team, for the 2011 Master Agreement.

She graduated from St. Louis University with a BS in Physical Therapy in 1988 She obtained her certification in Athletic Training in 1995, doing her clinical hours at Tennessee State University from 1992- 1994. MJ feels representing the over 280,000 VA workers who service, support and celebrate our Nation's heroes is a great honor. She often reflects deciding to work at the Veteran Health Administration, was one of the best career decisions of her life.