#### Department of Veterans Affairs M21-1, Part I, Chapter 5

**Veterans Benefits Administration March 24, 2015**

**Washington, DC 20420**

#### Transmittal Sheet

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| Changes Included in This Revision | The table below describes the changes included in this revision of Veterans Benefits Manual M21-1, Part I, “Claimants Rights and Responsibilities,” Chapter 5, “Appeals.”  ***Notes***: Minor editorial changes have also been made to   * update incorrect or obsolete hyperlink references * update section and topic titles to more accurately reflect their content * renumber each topic based on the standard that the first topic in each section is Topic 1, and * bring the documents into conformance with M21-1 and Knowledge Management (KM) standards. |

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| Reason(s) for the Change | Citation |
| To clarify the requirements for determining whether a notice of disagreement (NOD) is valid. | M21-1, Part I, Chapter 5, Section B, Topic 1, Block a (I.5.B.1.a) |
| To indicate evidence or statements suggesting appealed issued will be considered a “request for notice of disagreement” if not filed on a timely *VA Form 21-0958, Notice of Disagreement.* | I.5.B.1.c |
| To indicate how to process new issues raised on an NOD after March 24, 2015. | I.5.B.3.g |
| To provide guidance on how to handle correspondence expressing dissatisfaction or disagreement with a decision that is not submitted on a *VA Form 21-0958* when it is required. | I.5.B.3.h |
| To provide an example request for NOD letter. | I.5.B.3.i |

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| Rescissions | None |

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| Authority | By Direction of the Under Secretary for Benefits |

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| Signature | Thomas J. Murphy, Director  Compensation Service |

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