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

**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.”  ***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 that Veterans Appeals Control and Locator System (VACOLS) should not be updated upon receipt of a duplicate substantive appeal unless a new issue within the scope of the appeal is raised. | M21-1, Part I, Chapter 5, Section E, Topic 2, Block a (I.5.E.2.a) |
| To indicate that *VA Form 21-0958*, *Notice of Disagreement,* may need to be included with a decision notification letter. | I.5.E.3.a |

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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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