#### Department of Veterans Affairs M21-1MR, Part X, Chapter 16

**Veterans Benefits Administration November 13, 2014**

**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 M21-1MR, Part X, “Matching Programs,” Chapter 16, “Fugitive Felon Match.”***Notes***: * The term regional office (RO) also includes pension management center (PMC), where appropriate.
* Minor editorial changes have also been made to
* change “beneficiary” to
* “beneficiary or the beneficiary’s dependent,” where applicable, and
* “beneficiary (or apportionee),” where applicable
* update incorrect or obsolete hyperlink references
* update obsolete terminology, where appropriate
* reorganize blocks into a more logical sequence
* reassign alphabetical designations to individual blocks based on the
* reorganization or deletion of existing blocks, and/or
* addition of new blocks
* clarify block labels and/or block text, and
* bring the documents into conformance with M21-1MR standards.
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| Reason(s) for the Change | Citation | Page(s) |
| To make revisions to the definition of “fugitive felon,” so that it more closely aligns with the definition in *Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) Letter 20-14-09, New Fugitive Felon Policy and Procedures*. | M21-1MR, Part X, Chapter 16, Topic 1, Block a (X.16.1.a) | 16-1 |
| To point out that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) may not pay additional benefits for a dependent who is a fugitive felon. | X.16.1.b | 16-2 |
| To create a new block containing the offense codes the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) may assign to felony arrest warrants. | X.16.1.e | 16-3 |
| * To delete the note at the bottom of Step 1, as the information contained therein already exists in X.16.1.d.
* To incorporate new instructions for handling *Form FFP-3, VA Investigative Summary*, as set forth in *VBA Letter 20-14-09*.
* To consolidate the instructions found in (old) X.16.2.b and c into a single block.
 | X.16.2.a | 16-5 |

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| Changes Included in This Revision (continued) |

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| Reason(s) for the Change | Citation | Page(s) |
| * To consolidate the content of (old) X.16.2.d and i into a single block.
* To delete information (from old X.16.2.i) that applies only to award adjustments in the Benefits Delivery Network (BDN), which has been replaced with newer systems.
* To relocate the exceptions referenced in (old) X.16.2.f to a more logical location.
* To note that if the person named on *Form FFP-3* is a Veteran in receipt of a clothing allowance from VA, the RO of jurisdiction (ROJ) must inform the Prosthetics Department of the VA medical center that administers the allowance of the Veteran’s fugitive-felon status.
* To incorporate instructions from *VBA Letter 20-14-09* for
* deciding whether a beneficiary or a beneficiary’s dependent is a fugitive felon, and
* notifying the beneficiary of the decision.
 | X.16.2.b | 16-9 |
| * To relocate X.16.4.f to a more logical location and split it into two separate blocks.
* To delete instructions regarding the end products ROs must use to control the processing of *Form FFP-3*, as this information already exists in Stage 6 of the process described in X.16.2.a.
 | X.16.2.c and d | 16-11 |
| * To consolidate (old) X.16.2.e and g into a single block.
* To relocate the “Important” note at the bottom of (old) X.16.1.e to a more logical location.
* To relocate the *Note* in (old) X.16.1.g to a more logical location.
 | X.16.2.e | 16-11 |
| To add a block that discusses the restoration of benefits that were reduced or stopped based on the policy regarding fugitive felons that existed prior to the release of *VBA Letter 20-14-09*. | X.16.2.h | 16-14 |
| To relocate (old) X.16.4.d to a more logical location and add additional instructions (from *VBA Letter 20-14-09)* for handling documentation received from sources other than VA’s Office of Inspector General (OIG) that suggests a beneficiary or a beneficiary’s dependent might be or might have been a fugitive felon. | X.16.2.i | 16-15 |
| To note the time limit for submitting a hearing request during the adverse action proposal period. | X.16.4.d | 16-25 |
| To delete (old) X.16.1.d because it contains information that already exists in a subsequent topic of this chapter (X.16.2). | --- | --- |

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| Changes Included in This Revision (continued) |

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| Reason(s) for the Change | Citation | Page(s) |
| To delete (old) X.16.1.e (except for the “Important” note in this block, which was relocated to X.16.2.b) because it contains information that already exists in a subsequent topic of this chapter (X.16.2). | --- | --- |
| To delete (old) X.16.2.a because* the use of *Form FFP-3* is now discussed in X.16.1.d, and
* *VBA Letter 20-14-09* makes no reference to the current use of *Form FFP-2, Law Enforcement Certification Form*.
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| To delete (old) X.16.2.h, as it contains instructions that apply only to award adjustments in BDN. | --- | --- |
| To delete (old) X.16.2.k, as VA medical centers are now responsible for making adjustments to clothing allowances.  | --- | --- |
| To delete (old) X.16.3.i, as the information contained in this block has been incorporated into the various blocks under X.16.2. | --- | --- |

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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, DirectorCompensation Service |

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