#### Department of Veterans Affairs M21-1, Part III, Subpart iii

**Veterans Benefits Administration August 12, 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 III, “General Claims Process,” Subpart iii, “General Development and Dependency Issues.”  ***Notes***: Minor editorial changes have also been made to   * update incorrect references * reassign alphabetical designations to individual blocks, where necessary, to account for new blocks within a topic, and * bring the document into conformance with M21-1 standards. |

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| Reason(s) for the Change | Citation |
| To add new Block h which clarifies guidelines for requesting service treatment records (STRs) and official military personnel files (OMPFs). | M21-1, Part III, Subpart iii, Chapter 2, Section D, Topic 1, Block h  (III.iii.2.D.1.h) |
| To add a note clarifying what to do when a Personnel Information Exchange System (PIES) request needs to be resubmitted. | III.iii.2.D.3.a |
| * To update note for codes M05/M05-V clarifying not to submit M01 when a negative result is provided and that an O50 request code is needed if the service in question does not meet the definition of fire-related. * To update note for codes M06/M06-V clarifying what to do when a PIES request needs to be resubmitted. | III.iii.2.D.3.b |
| To update note for codes O20/O20-V clarifying what to do when a PIES request needs to be resubmitted. | III.iii.2.D.3.c |
| To add a note clarifying that a follow-up PIES request to the Records Management Center (RMC) Veterans Benefits Management System (VBMS) mailbox is not needed unless the request status still shows as *Open* 45 days or more after it was initially requested. | III.iii.2.D.4.b |

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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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