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

**Veterans Benefits Administration April 6, 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 v, “General Authorization Issues and Claimant Notifications.”  ***Notes***:   * The term Veterans Service Center Manager (VSCM) also includes Pension Management Center Manager (PMCM), where appropriate. * Minor editorial changes have also been made to * remove references to rescinded portions of M21-1 * update incorrect or obsolete hyperlink references * update the term “retired pay” to “military retired pay” * update the term “grant” to “award,” where appropriate * update obsolete terminology, where appropriate * renumber each topic to account for the * deletion of Topic 4 (in a prior change), and * relocation of Topic 5 (in the current change) * clarify block labels and/or block text, and * bring the document into conformance with M21-1 standards. |

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| Reason(s) for the Change | Citation |
| To add Federal tax information (FTI) as a type of evidence that, if relevant and of record, must be considered when making an entitlement decision. | M21-1, Part III, Subpart v, Chapter 2, Section A, Topic 1, Block a (III.v.2.A.1.a) |
| To explain the proper payment of benefits to a beneficiary the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has proposed to rate incompetent. | III.v.2.A.1.c |
| To refer the reader to III.v.2.B for information about the handling of decision notices that contain FTI. | III.v.2.A.2.c |
| To remove references that are provided in the text of the block. | III.v.2.A.3.d |
| To state that, in order to remain entitled to benefits from the original date of claim, claimants must submit the evidence VA requested (but the claimant failed to provide) within one year of the date of notice of the corresponding denial. (There exists no regulatory basis for the prior requirement to submit the evidence within one year of the date VA requested it.) | III.v.2.A.4.a |
| To remove a reference to III.iv.3.B.14.e, which was recently deleted. | III.v.2.A.4.b |
| To remove (old) III.v.2.A.5 due to its relocation to III.ii.7.1. | --- |

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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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