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

**Veterans Benefits Administration Date**

**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 “regional office” also includes pension management centers, where appropriate. * Unless otherwise noted, the term “claims folder” refers to the official, numbered, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) repository – whether paper or electronic – for all documentation relating to claims that a Veteran and/or his/her dependent(s) file with VA. * Minor editorial changes have also been made to * update incorrect or obsolete references * rename references to death pension to survivors pension * replace references to and instructions for using the Benefits Delivery Network (BDN) with hyperlinks to the *Veterans Service Network (VETSNET) Awards Handbook* * update obsolete terminology, where appropriate * renumber each topic based on the standard that the first topic in each section is Topic 1 * 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 clarify the regulations that dictate the amountof benefits the VA may apportion to a surviving spouse’s child. | M21-1, Part III, Subpart v, Chapter 3, Section C, Topic 1, Block a (III.v.3.C.1.a) |
| To remove outdated content for discontinuing an apportionment due to a surviving spouse’s failure to return an income questionnaire | III.v.3.C.1.d |
| To remove outdated content regarding circumstances that permit an immediate award to a hospitalized Veteran’s spouse per Fast Letter 09-41, *Revised Procedures for Releasing Monthly Benefits with Proposal of Incompetency*. | III.v.3.C.2.d |
| To identify the Pittsburgh Regional Office as the only station of jurisdiction for processing foreign resident beneficiary cases. | III.v.3.C.3.a |
| * To clarify what benefits may be apportioned when a child is adopted outside of a Veteran’s family per 38 CFR 3.458(d). * To include a reference for VAOPGCREC 16-94. | III.v.3.C.4.a |
| To delete (old) III.v.3.C.13, as the information contained therein has been relocated to III.v.3.D. | --- |

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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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