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

**Veterans Benefits Administration August 5, 2011**

**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 III, “General Claims Process,” Subpart v, “General Authorization Issues and Claimant Notification.”  ***Notes***:   * M21-1MR will retain some information related to the Benefits Delivery Network (BDN) until it is no longer operational, since the Veterans Service Network (VETSNET) does not yet permit processing of all types of benefit transactions.  For information on VETSNET applications and input, consult the [VETSNET User Guides](http://vbaw.vba.va.gov/bl/21/Systems/awards.htm) on the Compensation Service Intranet. * The term regional office (RO) also includes pension management center (PMC), when appropriate. * The term Veterans Service Center Manager (VSCM) also includes Pension Management Center Manager (PMCM), when appropriate. * Minor editorial changes have also been made to * remove references to rescinded portions of M21-1 * update incorrect or obsolete hyperlink references * reflect the repagination of documents * update the term “veteran” to “Veteran” * 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 remove the “Exception” and the associated note below, because a formal election *is* required for a reelection between compensation and pension. Per 38 CFR 3.701, VA cannot assume that the claimant elects the greater benefit. | III.v.4.A.1.d | 4-A-3 |
| To delete Block a and revise Block b to   * reflect that VA cannot award the greater benefit of compensation or pension unless the claimant elects the benefit, and * provide instructions for processing an award of the lesser benefit in VETSNET Awards. | III.v.4.A.2.a and b | 4-A-4 |

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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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