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

**Veterans Benefits Administration July 23, 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 regional office (RO) also includes pension management center (PMC), where appropriate.
* Minor editorial changes have also been made to
* update incorrect or obsolete references
* update the term “veteran” to “Veteran”
* update obsolete terminology, where appropriate
* remove references to specific claims-processing systems, where doing so does not affect the clarity of the instructions or information provided
* renumber each topic based on the standard that the first topic in each section is Topic 1
* reassign alphabetical designations to individual blocks, where necessary, to account for new and/or deleted blocks within a topic
* update section and topic titles to more accurately reflect their content
* 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 remove reference to the policy of making immediate payments to a spouse payee under 38 CFR 3.850(a)(2). | M21-1, Part III, Subpart v, Chapter 6, Section E, Topic 2, Block a (III.v.6.E.2.a) |
| To remove instructions for updating/editing the name of the fiduciary in the system and sending the information to the Fiduciary Hub when a Veteran is transferred to another institution, as this action is completed by the Fiduciary Hub of jurisdiction.  | III.v.6.E.2.b |
| To update the steps to take after the rating activity makes a decision of competency or incompetency under the conditions that the Veteran is rated as competent and already has a fiduciary appointed by the VA, or when a Veteran is rated as incompetent and already has a fiduciary appointed by the VA. | III.v.6.E.4.e., and III.v.6.E.8.d. |
| To remove references to the payment of awards to an incompetent Veteran's spouse under 38 CFR 3.850(a)(2). | III.v.6.E.5.a, b, and old c. |

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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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