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

**Veterans Benefits Administration June 18, 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 vi, “Special Authorization Issues.”***Notes***: Minor editorial changes have also been made to * update the term “veteran” to “Veteran”
* update topic titles to more accurately reflect their content
* 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 how debts are created based on retroactive reductions of an award.
* To explain the waiver process as part of the Committee on Waivers and Compromises (COWC).
 | M21-1, Part III, Subpart vi, Chapter 2, Section C, Topic 1, Block a(III.vi.2.C.1.a) |
| To delete III.vi.2.C.1.b because it refers to instructions contained in III.vi.2.C.3, a topic that has been deleted. | --- |
| To explain award processing after a request for waiver of a debt is granted. | III.vi.2.C.2.a |
| * To add a requirement that decision notices inform beneficiaries that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) withheld benefits from a retroactive award to prevent the duplicate payment of benefits following VA’s waiver of a prior debt.
* To remove reference to a “Type 1” withholding, as this type of withholding existed only in the Benefits Delivery Network (BDN), which VA no longer uses to process awards of compensation or pension.
 | III.vi.2.C.2.b |
| To delete III.vi.2.C.3 because it contains instructions that apply only to the processing of awards in BDN. | --- |

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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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