

Please ensure you start utilizing the new forms immediately as to avoid any problems with VA notification such as outdated forms. If you have older versions of the POA please delete and upload the new versions ASAP. I have attached a new version POA.

Friday, October 27, 2023

Compensation Service (CS) will release three forms on October 27, 2023. All three forms have new version dates. These are:

- VA Form (VAF) 21-22, Appointment of Veterans Service Organization as Claimant's Representative, new version dated July 2023, and the edits include:
 - a new question in Section II, 'claimant's date of birth', and
 - the list of recognized service organizations on Page 3 has been updated.
- VAF 21-22a, Appointment of Individual as Claimant's Representative, new version dated July 2023, and the edits include:
 - new instructions pointing claimants to OGC's accreditation website,
 - a new question in Section II, 'claimant's date of birth',
 - added a telephone and email question for the individual appointed as claimant's representative in Section III, and
 - modified Question 19 in Section IV, to include:
 - ♣ a check box that provides informed consent for claimants to allow attorneys or agents to have access to their VA electronic records, and
 - ♣ a second check box granting VA permission to disclose claimant records to administrative employees (i.e., staff assistant or paralegal) of the claimant's representative if individually listed by name in Question 16a. Additionally, if administrative employees are listed and the box is checked, VA employees (i.e., claims processors, National Call Center employees, etc.) can disclose information to those individuals via phone or secured e-mail.
- VA Form 21-0779, Request for Nursing Home Information in Connection with Claim for Aid and Attendance, new version dated September 2023. No changes were made to this form other than the new version and expiration dates.

We would like to encourage the use of the new versions of these forms, as they are the most up to date, however, the previous versions, can be used as described in M21-1 Part II, Subpart i, 2.B.4. (Handling Outdated or Discontinued Forms). For the specific circumstances that an outdated form may be accepted, refer to M21-1, II.i.2.B.4.a.

Re-release Notice of VA Form

CS is rereleasing VA Form 21-4193, Notice to Department of VA of Veteran or Beneficiary Incarcerated in Penal Institution, on October 27, 2023, as it has been modified with several non-substantive changes. As non-substantive changes, such as changing formatting or clarifying instructions, can happen at any time, they DO NOT change version dates. As such, the current version date of October 2022 for VAF21-0779 does not change.

To accommodate the slight differences, claim processors will process and accept the information if everything requested on the submitted form is provided.

To match M21-1 Part VI, Subpart iii, Chapter 1.A.3.D Verifying the Details of Incarceration, the non-substantive edits made to VAF21-4193, are:

- an additional checkbox of 'infraction' in Question 9,
- a new Question 10A, 'requesting the date of conviction',
- a new Question 11B, asking 'has/will incarceration last(ed) more than 60 days following date of conviction?', and
- a prompt has been added in question 13A to complete 13B if "yes" is checked.

Any questions let me know,

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