

# **SURVIVORS**

## **PENSION WITH AID AND ATTENDANCE**

### **DOCUMENTS NEEDED**

**\*\*\* Please have all documents available prior your appointment to avoid delays\*\*\***

- **DD-214/Veterans Separation Paperwork (Must be a wartime veteran & meet the minimum service criteria)**
- **Death Certificate – long form**
- **Marriage Certificate**
  - **Marital History for both vet & spouse**
- **Bank Statement: Checking and Savings account (Most recent)**
- **Social Security Statement (Most recent)**
- **Annuity Monthly Statement (Most recent)**
- **Private Sector Monthly Pension Statement (Most recent)**
- **Statements for IRA's, Bonds, Stocks, Etc.. (Most recent)**
- **Trust Fund statement – (All Schedules)**
- **Aid and Attendance Form - (VA Form 21-2680)**
- **Third Party Authorization– (VA Form 21-0845)**
- **Assisted Living Facility Form – if applicable**
- **In-Home Healthcare Form – if applicable**
- **Nursing Home Form - if applicable**
- **Proof of caregiver/facility payment (bill/statement) –\$5k or more**
  - **must show amount paid, payment date, purpose of payment, name of person receiving care, and ID of provider**
- **Voided Check or Direct Deposit Form to show bank name, Account & Routing number**

## Eligible Wartime Periods

Under current law, VA recognizes the following wartime periods to determine eligibility for VA Pension benefits:

- **World War II** (December 7, 1941 - December 31, 1946)
- **Korean Conflict** (June 27, 1950 - January 31, 1955)
- **Vietnam War** (November 1, 1955 - May 7, 1975) - for Veterans who served *"in country"* as of January 5, 2021
  - **Vietnam Era** (August 5, 1964 - May 7, 1975)
- **Gulf War** (August 2, 1990 - through a future date to be set by law or Presidential Proclamation)

**\*\* Veterans must have at least 90 days of active duty, including one day during wartime period. If the active duty occurred after September 7, 1980, the vet must have served at least 24 months or the full period that he/she were called up (some exceptions may apply)\*\***

**VA PENSION MAXIMUM MONTHLY AMOUNTS FOR 2026**  
**(Effective 12/01/2025)**

**AID AND ATTENDANCE (A&A)**

Veteran:	\$2,424
One Dependent:	\$2,874
Widow(er) No Dependents:	\$1,558
Widow(er) One Dependent:	\$1,858

**HOUSEBOUND (HB)**

Veteran:	\$1,776
One Dependent:	\$2,225
Widow(er) No Dependents:	\$1,191
Widow(er) One Dependent:	\$1,491

**NOTE THE MAXIMUM YEARLY INCOME TO QUALIFY IS...**

Veteran Pension:	\$17,441
Veteran w/ One Dependent:	\$22,839
Veteran (HB):	\$21,313
Veteran w/ One Dependent (HB):	\$26,710
Veteran (A&A):	\$29,093
Veteran w/ One Dependent (A&A):	\$34,488
Widow(er) (Pension):	\$11,696
Widow(er) (HB):	\$14,298
Widow(er) (A&A)	\$18,697

**NOTE: Net worth & combined annual income must be below**  
**\$163,699 dollars**





Department of Veterans Affairs

**VA DATE STAMP**  
(DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE)**EXAMINATION FOR HOUSEBOUND STATUS OR PERMANENT NEED  
FOR REGULAR AID AND ATTENDANCE**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Before completing this form, read the Privacy Act and Respondent Burden on page 4. Use this form to determine eligibility for aid and attendance or housebound benefits. For more information, you can contact us online through Ask VA: <https://ask.va.gov/>. Ask us a question online or call us toll-free at 1-800-827-1000 (TTY: 711). VA forms are available at [www.va.gov/vaforms](http://www.va.gov/vaforms).

**SECTION I: VETERAN'S IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION**

**NOTE:** You may complete the form online or by hand. If completing by hand, print neatly and legibly in ink, and completely fill in each applicable check box to help expedite processing of the form.

**1. VETERAN/BENEFICIARY'S NAME (First, Middle Initial, Last)****2. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER****3. VA FILE NUMBER (If applicable)****4. VETERAN'S SERVICE NUMBER (If applicable)****5. DATE OF BIRTH (MM/DD/YYYY)****SECTION II: CLAIMANT'S IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION****6. CLAIMANT'S NAME (First, Middle Initial, Last)****7. CLAIMANT'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER****8. RELATIONSHIP OF CLAIMANT TO VETERAN**☐ SELF☐ PARENT☐ SPOUSE☐ CHILD**9. CLAIMANT'S DATE OF BIRTH (MM/DD/YYYY)****10. MAILING ADDRESS (Number and street or rural route, P. O. Box, City, State, ZIP Code and Country)**No. & Street Apt./Unit Number  City State/Province  Country  ZIP Code/Postal Code **11. TELEPHONE NUMBER (Optional) (Include Area Code)**

Enter International Phone Number (If applicable)

**12. EMAIL ADDRESS (Optional)** ☐ I agree to receive electronic correspondence from VA in regards to my claim.**SECTION III: CLAIM INFORMATION****13. SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING BENEFITS (Choose one)**

**Special Monthly Compensation (SMC)** - Veterans and surviving spouses or parents who are eligible to receive VA compensation due to a service-related disability or death and require aid and attendance of another person to perform personal functions required in everyday living such as bathing, feeding, dressing, attending to the wants of nature, adjusting prosthetic devices, or protecting oneself from the hazards of the daily environment may be eligible for Special Monthly Compensation. A veteran or a deceased veteran's surviving spouse may also be eligible for Special Monthly Compensation based on being housebound (substantially confined to the immediate premises because of permanent disability). For a veteran, the disability causing the need for aid and attendance or housebound status must be related to service. These benefits are paid in addition to monthly compensation or Dependency Indemnity Compensation (DIC). They are not paid without eligibility to compensation.



**Special Monthly Pension (SMP)** - Veterans and survivors who are eligible for Veteran's Pension and/or Survivors benefits and require the aid and attendance of another person in order to perform personal functions required in everyday living, such as bathing, feeding, dressing, attending to the wants of nature, adjusting prosthetic devices, or protecting them from the hazards of their daily environment, or are housebound (substantially confined to their immediate premises because of permanent disability), may be eligible for Special Monthly Pension (SMP). This benefit is an increased monthly amount paid to a veteran or survivor who is eligible for Veterans Pension or Survivors benefits.

#### SECTION IV: IS VETERAN/CLAIMANT HOSPITALIZED?

<p>14A. IS THE CLAIMANT HOSPITALIZED?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> YES (If "YES," complete Items 14B, 14C &amp; 14D)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NO (If "NO," skip to Section V)</p>	<p>14B. DATE ADMITTED (MM/DD/YYYY)</p> <p><input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p>
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14C. NAME OF HOSPITAL
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14D. ADDRESS OF HOSPITAL
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## SECTION V: CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE

**I CERTIFY THAT** the statements on this form are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

15A. VETERAN/CLAIMANT'S SIGNATURE (Required) \_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION VI: EXAMINATION INFORMATION

(IMPORTANT: Remainder of form MUST be filled out by Examiner)

**NOTE:** Examiner **must be** a Medical Doctor (MD) or Doctor of Osteopathic (DO) medicine, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse.

16. DATE OF EXAMINATION (MM/DD/YYYY)

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A subtraction problem using base ten blocks: 2 tens minus 1 ten minus 1 ten.

**NOTE: EXAMINER PLEASE READ CAREFULLY**

The purpose of this examination is to record manifestations and findings pertinent to the question of whether the veteran/claimant is housebound (confined to the home or immediate premises) or in need of the regular aid and attendance of another person. Please provide as much description as needed for each question as this will assist VA to determine if the disease(s) or injury(ies) listed may lead to physical or mental impairment, loss of coordination or enfeeblement that require assistance with daily living. Findings should be recorded to show whether the claimant is blind or bedridden. Whether the claimant seeks housebound or aid and attendance benefits, the report should reflect how well they ambulate, where they go, and what they are able to do during a typical day.

17. PROVIDE COMPLETE DIAGNOSIS WITH MOST SIGNIFICANT SYMPTOMS FOR EACH CONDITION (Diagnosis needs to equate to the level of assistance described in Items 26 through 37) (Describe below)

18. WHAT DISABILITY(IES) ARE CONSIDERED PERMANENT AND TOTALLY DISABLING? (Describe below)

A.	D.
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B.		E.	
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C.		F.	
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19A. AGE	19B. WEIGHT	19C. HEIGHT
<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	ACTUAL LBS. <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> ESTIMATED LBS. <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	FEET <input type="text"/> INCHES <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>

ACTUAL LBS.    ESTIMATED LBS.    FEET  INCHES

20. NUTRITION	21. GAIT
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22. BLOOD PRESSURE	23. PULSE RATE	24. RESPIRATORY RATE	25. WHAT DISABILITIES RESTRICT THE LISTED ACTIVITIES/FUNCTIONS?
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VETERAN'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER  -  -

26. IF THE PATIENT IS CONFINED TO BED, INDICATE THE NUMBER OF HOURS IN BED

From 9 PM to 9 AM:  From 9 AM to 9 PM:

27. DOES THE PATIENT REQUIRE ASSISTANCE WITH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES? (Select ALL that apply)

- ☐ BATHING/SHOWERING ☐ TENDING TO HYGIENE NEEDS ☐ ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES (i.e., housekeeping, laundering, meal preparation, etc.) (Specify additional activity below)
- ☐ EATING OR SELF-FEEDING ☐ TRANSFERRING IN OR OUT OF BED/CHAIR
- ☐ DRESSING ☐ TOILETING
- ☐ AMBULATING WITHIN THE HOME OR LIVING AREA ☐ MEDICATION MANAGEMENT

28A. IS THE PATIENT LEGALLY BLIND? (If "Yes," provide explanation)

☐ YES

☐ NO

28B. CORRECTED VISION

LEFT EYE

RIGHT EYE

29. DOES THE PATIENT REQUIRE NURSING HOME CARE? (If "Yes," provide explanation)

☐ YES

☐ NO

30. IN YOUR JUDGMENT, DOES THE PATIENT HAVE THE MENTAL CAPACITY TO MANAGE THEIR BENEFIT PAYMENTS, OR ARE THEY ABLE TO DIRECT SOMEONE TO DO SO?

☐ YES

☐ NO

(If "NO," provide the disability(ies) that prevent them from performing this function and any rationale to support your conclusion in the space provided)

31. WHAT IS THE POSTURE AND GENERAL APPEARANCE OF THE PATIENT? (Describe)

32. DESCRIBE RESTRICTIONS OF EACH UPPER EXTREMITY WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO GRIP, FINE MOVEMENTS, AND ABILITY TO FEED THEMSELVES, TO BUTTON CLOTHING, SHAVE AND ATTEND TO THE NEEDS OF NATURE

33. DESCRIBE RESTRICTIONS OF EACH LOWER EXTREMITY WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE EXTENT OF LIMITATION OF MOTION, ATROPHY, AND CONTRACTURES OR OTHER INTERFERENCE. (**NOTE:** If indicated, comment specifically on weight bearing, balance and propulsion of each lower extremity)

34. DESCRIBE RESTRICTION OF SPINE, TRUNK, AND NECK

VETERAN'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER  -

35. DESCRIBE ALL OTHER PATHOLOGY INCLUDING THE LOSS OF BOWEL OR BLADDER CONTROL OR THE EFFECTS OF ADVANCING AGE, SUCH AS DIZZINESS, LOSS OF MEMORY OR POOR BALANCE, THAT AFFECTS PATIENT'S ABILITY TO PERFORM SELF-CARE, OR IF HOSPITALIZED, BEYOND THE WARD OR CLINICAL AREA

36. HOW OFTEN PER DAY OR WEEK AND UNDER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES (to include the level of assistance required) IS THE PATIENT ABLE TO LEAVE THE HOME OR IMMEDIATE PREMISES (Describe)

37. ARE AIDS SUCH AS CANES, BRACES, CRUTCHES, OR THE ASSISTANCE OF ANOTHER PERSON REQUIRED FOR LOCOMOTION?

☐ YES (If "YES," check the applicable box or specify distance)

☐ 1 BLOCK

☐ 5 OR 6 BLOCKS

☐ 1 MILE

OTHER (Specify distance) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ NO

#### SECTION VII: EXAMINER'S SIGNATURE

38. PRINTED NAME OF EXAMINER

39. TITLE OF EXAMINER

40. SIGNATURE OF EXAMINER (REQUIRED)

41. DATE SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY)

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#### SECTION VIII: EXAMINER'S INFORMATION

42. NATIONAL PROVIDER IDENTIFIER (NPI) NUMBER OF EXAMINER

43. NAME OF MEDICAL FACILITY

44. ADDRESS OF MEDICAL FACILITY (Number and street or rural route, city, state, ZIP Code and Country)

45. TELEPHONE NUMBER OF MEDICAL FACILITY (Include Area Code)

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Enter International Phone Number (If applicable)

**PENALTY:** The law provides severe penalties (including fine and/or imprisonment) for willfully submitting any statement or evidence of a material fact you know to be false, or for fraudulent receipt of any document you are not entitled to.

**PRIVACY ACT NOTICE:** The VA will not disclose information collected on this form to any source other than what has been authorized under the Privacy Act of 1974 or Title 38, code of Federal Regulations 1.576 for routine uses (i.e., civil or criminal law enforcement, congressional communications, epidemiological or research studies, the collection of money owed to the United States, litigation in which the United States is a party or has an interest, the administration of VA programs and delivery of VA benefits, verification of identity and status, and personnel administration) as identified in the VA system of records. 58VA21/22/28, Compensation, Pension, Education and Veteran Readiness and Employment Records - VA, published in the Federal Register. Your obligation to respond is required to obtain or retain benefits. Giving us your Social Security Number (SSN) account information is mandatory. Applicants are required to provide their SSN under Title 38, U.S.C. 5701(c)(1). The VA will not deny an individual benefits for refusing to provide his or her SSN unless the disclosure is required by a Federal Statute of law in effect prior to January 1, 1975, and still in effect. The requested information is considered relevant and necessary to determine maximum benefits provided under the law. The responses you submit are considered confidential (38 U.S.C. 5701). Information that you furnish may be utilized in computer matching programs with other Federal or state agencies for the purpose of determining your eligibility to receive VA benefits, as well as to collect any amount owed to the United States by virtue of your participation in any benefit program administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

**RESPONDENT BURDEN:** We need this information to determine your eligibility for aid and attendance or housebound benefits. Title 38, United States Code 1521 (d) and (e), 1115(I)(e), 1311(c) and (d), 1315(h), 1122, 1541(d)(e), and 1502 (b) and (c) allows us to ask for this information. We estimate that you will need an average of 30 minutes to review the instructions, find the information, and complete this form. VA cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless a valid OMB control number is displayed. You are not required to respond to a collection of information if this number is not displayed. Valid OMB control numbers can be located on the OMB Internet website at <http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>. If desired, you can call 1-800-827-1000 to get information on where to send comments or suggestions about this form.

**WORKSHEET FOR A RESIDENTIAL CARE, ADULT DAYCARE, OR A SIMILAR FACILITY**

1. WHO ARE YOU COMPLETING THIS WORKSHEET FOR? (Name of Care Recipient, either the Claimant or Dependent) (First, Last)

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

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No. &  
Street[illegible]

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[illegible]

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[illegible]☐ A. EATING☐ B. BATHING/SHOWERING☐ C. TRANSFERRING IN OR OUT OF BED OR CHAIR☐ D. DRESSING☐ E. USING THE TOILET☐ F. AMBULATING WITHIN HOME OR LIVING AREA

☐ THE STATE OR COUNTRY **REQUIRES** THIS FACILITY TO BE LICENSED

☐ THE FACILITY IS LICENSED

☐ THE FACILITY IS RESIDENTIAL

☐ THE FACILITY IS STAFFED 24 HOURS

(Custodial Care is regular assistance with two or more ADLs (Question 8), or supervision because an individual with a physical, mental, developmental, or cognitive disorder requires care or assistance on a regular basis to protect the individual from hazards or dangers incident to their daily environment.)

☐ YES    ☐ NO, Care is being provided by a third-party provider.    ☐ NO, Care is not being provided to this claimant.

11. PLEASE PROVIDE THE DATE OF ADMISSION FOR THE CARE  
RECIPIENT STAYING AT THE FACILITY. (MM/DD/YYYY)

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12. ON WHAT DATE DO YOU EXPECT THIS CARE TO END? (MM/DD/YYYY)  
(Select "Indefinite" if the care you provide is not temporary.)

/  /  INDEFINITE

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 PER MONTH

**I CERTIFY** that the information stated within this **WORKSHEET FOR AN ASSISTED LIVING, ADULT DAYCARE, OR SIMILAR FACILITY** is accurate and reflects the current environment of the Care Recipient and the facility.

15. DATE SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY)

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Department of Veterans Affairs

**VA DATE STAMP**  
(Do Not Write In This Space)**REQUEST FOR NURSING HOME INFORMATION IN CONNECTION  
WITH CLAIM FOR AID AND ATTENDANCE**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Before completing this form, read the Privacy Act and Respondent Burden on page 2. VA uses this form to determine eligibility for pension and aid and attendance benefits based on nursing home status. For more information you can contact us online through **Ask VA:** <https://ask.va.gov>, or call us toll-free at 1-800-827-1000 (TTY: 711). VA forms are available at [www.va.gov/vaforms](http://www.va.gov/vaforms). After completing the form, mail to: **Department of Veterans Affairs, Evidence Intake Center, P.O. Box 4444, Janesville, WI, 53547-4444.**

**SECTION I - VETERAN'S IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION**

**NOTE:** You may complete the form online or by hand. If completing by hand, print neatly and legibly in ink, and completely fill in each applicable checkbox to help expedite processing of the form.

1. VETERAN'S NAME (First, Middle Initial, Last)

2. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

3. VA FILE NUMBER

4. DATE OF BIRTH (MM/DD/YYYY)

**SECTION II - CLAIMANT'S IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION (Complete this section ONLY IF the claimant is NOT the veteran)**

5. CLAIMANT'S NAME (First, Middle Initial, Last)

6. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

7. VA FILE NUMBER (If applicable)

8. DATE OF BIRTH (MM/DD/YYYY)

**SECTION III - NURSING HOME INFORMATION**

9. NAME OF NURSING HOME

10. ADDRESS OF NURSING HOME (Number and street or rural route, P.O. Box, City, State, ZIP Code and Country)

No. &  
Street

Apt./Unit Number

City

State/Province

Country

ZIP Code/Postal Code

**SECTION IV - GENERAL INFORMATION (To be completed by a Nursing Home Official)**

**NOTE:** Your state's Medicaid program may use a different name.

11. DATE ADMITTED TO NURSING HOME (MM/DD/YYYY)

12. IS THE NURSING HOME A MEDICAID APPROVED FACILITY?

☐ YES ☐ NO

13. HAS THE PATIENT APPLIED FOR MEDICAID?

☐ YES ☐ NO

14A. IS THE PATIENT COVERED BY MEDICAID?

☐ YES ☐ NO (If "YES," complete Item 14B)

14B. DATE MEDICAID PLAN BEGAN (MM/DD/YYYY)

15. MONTHLY AMOUNT PATIENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR OUT OF POCKET \$ 

16. I CERTIFY THAT THE CLAIMANT IS A PATIENT IN THIS FACILITY BECAUSE OF MENTAL OR PHYSICAL DISABILITY AND IS RECEIVING: (Check one)

☐ SKILLED NURSING CARE ☐ INTERMEDIATE NURSING CARE

17. NURSING HOME OFFICIAL'S NAME (First and Last)

18. NURSING HOME OFFICIAL'S TITLE

19. NURSING HOME OFFICIAL'S OFFICE TELEPHONE  
NUMBER (Include Area Code)Enter International Phone  
Number (If applicable)**SECTION V - CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE**

**I CERTIFY THAT** the statements on this form are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

20. SIGNATURE OF NURSING HOME OFFICIAL (REQUIRED)

21. DATE SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY)

**PENALTY:** The law provides severe penalties (including fine and/or imprisonment) for willfully submitting any statement or evidence of a material fact you know to be false, or for fraudulent receipt of any document you are not entitled to.

**VA DATE STAMP**  
(DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE)

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Use this form if you want to give the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) permission to release your personal beneficiary or claim information to a third party. This form ***may not be executed*** by any beneficiary recognized as incompetent for VA purposes, nor can VA ***accept*** this form from any beneficiary recognized as incompetent for VA purposes.

**NOTE:** You may *either* complete the form online or by hand. If completed by hand print the information requested in ink, neatly, and legibly to expedite processing the form.

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Enter International Phone Number (If applicable)

☐ I agree to receive electronic correspondence from VA in regards to my claim.

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[illegible]

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[illegible]

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**NOTE:** An organization may have more than one representative. Include the first and last name of any additional representatives.

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[illegible]

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11. I, THE VETERAN/BENEFICIARY/CLAIMANT AUTHORIZE VA TO CONTACT THE PERSON **OR** ORGANIZATION LISTED IN ITEM 10A OR 10C FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION PERTAINING TO MY VA RECORD (Check only one box below to tell VA the specific benefit or claim information you want disclosed)

☐ LIMITED INFORMATION (Go to Item 12)      ☐ ANY INFORMATION (Go to Item 13)

12. IF YOU SELECTED "LIMITED INFORMATION", CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:

☐ Status of pending claim or appeal      ☐ Amount of money owed VA      ☐ Current benefit and rate

☐ Request a benefit payment letter      ☐ Payment history      ☐ Change of address or direct deposit

☐ Other (Specify below):[illegible]

13. IF YOU SELECTED "ANY INFORMATION", THE TERMS OF SUCH RELEASE OF INFORMATION WILL BE:

☐ One time only ☐ Ongoing until written notice is given to VA to terminate

<input type="checkbox"/>	From the date of signing below until ( <i>Specify Date (MM/DD/YYYY)</i> ):			-			-			
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14. SPECIFY THE SECURITY QUESTION YOU WANT USED WHEN VERIFYING THE IDENTITY OF YOUR DESIGNATED THIRD PARTY. CHECK ONLY **ONE** SECURITY QUESTION BOX IN ITEM 14A AND PROVIDE THE ANSWER IN ITEM 14B.

### A. SECURITY QUESTION

B. ANSWER

☐ The city and state your mother was born in

[illegible]

☐ The name of the high school you attended

[illegible]☐ Your first pet's name[illegible]

☐ Your favorite teacher's name

[illegible]

☐ Your father's middle name

[illegible]

## SECTION IV - DECLARATION OF INTENT

**I CERTIFY THAT** the statements on this form are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

15. VETERAN/BENEFICIARY/CLAIMANT'S SIGNATURE (REQUIRED)

16. DATE SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY)

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**PRIVACY ACT INFORMATION:** VA will not disclose information collected on this form to any source other than what has been authorized under the Privacy Act of 1974 or title 38, Code of Federal Regulations 1.576 for routine uses (i.e., civil or criminal law enforcement, congressional communications, epidemiological or research studies, the collection of money owed to the United States, litigation in which the United States is a party or has an interest, the administration of VA programs and delivery of VA benefits, verification of identity and status, and personnel administration as identified in the VA system of records, 58VA21/22/28 Compensation, Pension, Education, and Veteran Readiness and Employment Records - VA, published in the Federal Register. Your obligation to respond is voluntary. VA uses your SSN to identify your claim file. Providing your SSN will help ensure that your records are properly associated with your claim file. Giving us your SSN account information is voluntary. Refusal to provide your SSN by itself will not result in the denial of benefits. The VA will not deny an individual benefits for refusing to provide his or her SSN unless the disclosure of the SSN is required by Federal Statute of law in effect prior to January 1, 1975, and still in effect.

**RESPONDENT BURDEN:** We need this information to release your private benefit and/or claim information to a designated third party(ies). The execution of this form does not authorize the release of information other than that specifically described. The information requested on this form will authorize release of the information you specify. Title 38, United States Code, allows us to ask for this information. We estimate that you will need an average of 5 minutes to review the instructions, find the information, and complete this form. VA cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless a valid OMB control number is displayed. You are not required to respond to a collection of information if this number is not displayed. Valid OMB control numbers can be located on the OMB Internet Page at [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). If desired, you can call 1-800-827-1000 to get information on where to send comments or suggestions about this form.