Department of Veterans Affa	irs MUSCLE INJUF			S QUESTIONNAIRE	
IMPORTANT - THE DEPARTMENT OF VETER/ COMPLETING AND/OR SUBMITTING THIS FOR	ANS AFFAIRS (VA) <i>WILL NOT PAY</i> OR RM. PLEASE READ THE PRIVACY ACT /	<b>REIMBURSE</b> ANY EXP AND RESPONDENT BU	ENSES OR COST IN	NCURRED IN THE PROCESS OF ON BEFORE COMPLETING FORM.	
NAME OF PATIENT/VETERAN			PATIENT/VETERA	N'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	
<b>NOTE TO PHYSICIAN</b> - Your patient is apprinformation you provide on this questionnaire a			l bility benefits. VA v	vill consider the	
	SECTION I - D				
1A. DOES THE VETERAN NOW HAVE OR HAS					
YES NO (If "Yes," complete Item 1	<i>B)</i>				
1B. PROVIDE ONLY DIAGNOSES THAT PERTA	IN TO MUSCLE INJURIES:			1	
DIAGNOSIS #1 -	ICD CODE -	DATE OF DIAGNOSI	S -	SIDE AFFECTED	
DIAGNOSIS #2 -	ICD CODE -			SIDE AFFECTED	
DIAGNOSIS #3 -	ICD CODE -	DATE OF DIAGNOSIS -		SIDE AFFECTED	
<b>NOTE</b> - If there are multiple muscle injuries, of	complete the assessment for all muscle ir	juries on this question	naire, if possible. If u	unable to complete assessment for all	
<b>NOTE</b> - If there are multiple muscle injuries, complete the assessment for all muscle injuries on this questionnaire, if possible. If unable to complete assessment for all muscle injuries on this questionnaire, also complete an additional questionnaire for each additional injury. If the veteran has or has had a muscle injury that results in any conditions that are not covered in this questionnaire, also complete any other appropriate questionnaires (e.g., if peripheral nerve injury also exists due to the muscle injury, complete VA Form 21-0960C-10, Peripheral Nerve Conditions (not including diabetic sensory-motor peripheral neuropathy) Disability Benefits Questionnaire.					
	SECTION II - HISTORY C				
	NG MUSCLE INJURY, SUCH AS A GUNS	HOT OR SHELL FRAG	MENT WOUND?		
2B. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE A NON-PENET		cle strain torn Achilles ten	don or torn quadricen	s muscla)?	
			aon or iorn quaarceps	s muscle):	
2C. DESCRIBE THE HISTORY (including onset and course) OF THE VETERAN'S MUSCLE INJURY (brief summary)					
2D. DOMINANT HAND	3				
SECTION III - LOCATION OF MUSCLE INJURY					
NOTE - For VA purposes, muscles are classified into groups I-XXIII. In this section, indicate the location of the veteran's muscle injury(ies) by checking the muscle group(s) involved.					
	SHOULDER GIRD				
3. DOES THE VETERAN NOW HAVE OR HAS HE/SHE EVER HAD AN INJURY TO A MUSCLE GROUP OF THE SHOULDER GIRDLE OR ARM?  YES NO  (If "Yes," check muscle group(s) and side affected (check all that apply)					
GROUP I: Extrinsic muscles of shoulder girdle: trapezius, levator scapulae, serratus magnus     Function: Upward rotation of scapula, elevation of arm above shoulder level     Side affected: Right Deft Doth					
GROUP II: Muscles of shoulder girdle: pectoralis major, latissimus dorsi and teres major, pectoralis minor, rhomboid Function: Depression of arm from vertical overhead to hanging at side, downward rotation of scapula, forward and backward swing of arm					
Side affected: Right Left GROUP III: Intrinsic muscles of st	noulder girdle: pectoralis major, deltoid				
Side affected: Right Left	of arm to level of shoulder, forward and ba	ckward swing of arm			
GROUP IV: Shoulder girdle musc Function: Stabilization of shoulder,	les: supraspinatus, infraspinatus and teres abduction, rotation of arm	s minor, subscapularis, c	coracobrachialis		
Side affected: Right Left GROUP V: Flexor muscles of elbor Function: Flexor of elbow	Both ow: biceps, brachialis, brachioradialis				
Side affected: Right Left Both					
GROUP VI: Extensor muscles of elbow: triceps Function: Extension of elbow					
Side affected: Right Left	Both				

SECTION III - LOCATION OF MUSCLE INJURY (Continued)
FOREARM AND HAND
4. DOES THE VETERAN NOW HAVE OR HAS HE/SHE EVER HAD AN INJURY TO A MUSCLE GROUP OF THE FOREARM OR HAND?
(If "Yes," check muscle group(s) and side affected (check all that apply)
GROUP VII: Muscles of forearm: flexors of the wrist, fingers and thumb Function: Flexion of wrist and fingers
Side affected: 🗌 Right 🔄 Left 🔄 Both
GROUP VIII: Muscles: extensors of the wrist, fingers and thumb Function: Extension of wrist, fingers and thumb
Side affected: Right Left Both
GROUP IX: Intrinsic muscles of hand, including muscles in the thenar and hypothenar eminence, lumbricales, dorsal
and palmar interossei
Function: Intrinsic muscles of the hand assist in delicate manipulative movements Side affected: Right Left Both
FOOT AND LEG
5. DOES THE VETERAN NOW HAVE OR HAS HE/SHE EVER HAD AN INJURY TO A MUSCLE GROUP OF THE FOOT OR LEG?
(If "Yes," check muscle group(s) and side affected (check all that apply)
GROUP X: Muscles of the foot: flexor digitorum brevis, abductor hallucis, abductor digiti minimi, quadratus plantae, lumbricales, flexor hallucis brevis, adductor hallucis, flexor digiti minimi brevis, dorsal and plantar interossei Function: Movements of forefoot and toes, propulsion thrust in walking
Side affected: Right Left Both
GROUP XI: Muscles of the foot ankle and calf gastrochemius soleus tibialis posterior peroneus longus peroneus brevis
flexor hallucis longus, flexor digitorum longus Function: Propulsion, plantar flexion of foot, stabilization of arch, flexion of toes
Side affected: 🗌 Right 🔄 Left 🔄 Both
GROUP XII: Anterior muscles of the leg, tibialis anterior, extensor digitorum longus, extensor hallucis longus, peroneus tertius Function: Dorsiflexion, extension of toes, stabilization of arch
Side affected: Right Left Both
PELVIC GIRDLE AND THIGH
6. DOES THE VETERAN NOW HAVE OR HAS HE/SHE EVER HAD AN INJURY TO A MUSCLE GROUP OF THE PELVIC GIRDLE OR THIGH?
(If "Yes," check muscle group(s) and side affected (check all that apply)
GROUP XIII: Posterior thigh/hamstring muscles: biceps femoris, semimembranosus, semitendinosus Function: Flexion of knee
Side affected: Right Left Both
GROUP XIV: Anterior thigh muscles: sartorius, rectus femoris, quadriceps Function: Extension of knee
Side affected: Right Left Both
GROUP XV: Medial thigh muscles: adductor longus, adductor brevis, adductor magnus, gracilis Function: Adduction of hip
Side affected: Right Left Both
GROUP XVI: Pelvic girdle muscles: psoas, iliacus, pectineus Function: Flexion of hip
Side affected: Right Left Both
GROUP XVII: Pelvic girdle muscles: gluteus maximus, gluteus medius, gluteus minimus Function: Extension of hip, abduction of thigh, postural support of body
Side affected: Right Left Both
If checked, is there severe damage to muscle group XVII, such that the veteran is unable to rise from a seated and stooped position and to
maintain postural stability without assistance of any type?
GROUP XVIII: Pelvic girdle muscles: pyriformis, gemelli, obturator, quadratus femoris Function: Outward rotation of thigh and stabilization of hip joint
Side affected: Right Left Both
TORSO AND NECK
7. DOES THE VETERAN NOW HAVE OR HAS HE/SHE EVER HAD AN INJURY TO A MUSCLE GROUP IN THE TORSO AND/OR NECK?
(If "Yes," check muscle group(s) and side or region affected (check all that apply) GROUP XIX: Muscles of the abdominal wall: rectus abdominis, external oblique, internal obliques, transversalis, quadratus lumborum
Function: Support of abdominal wall and lower thorax, flexion and lateral movement of spine
Side affected: Right Left Both
GROUP XX: Spinal muscles: sacrospinalis, erector spinae Function: Postural support of body, extension and lateral movement of the spine
Region affected: Cervical Thoracic Lumbar
GROUP XXI: Muscles of respiration: thoracic muscle group     Function: Respiration
Side affected: Right Left Both
GROUP XXII: Muscles of the front of the neck: trapezius, sternocleidomastoid, hyoid muscles, sternothyroid, digastric
Function: Rotation and flexion of the head, respiration, swallowing
Side affected: Right Left Both GROUP XXIII: Muscles of the side and back of the neck: suboccipital, lateral vertebral and anterior vertebral muscles
Function: Movements of the head, fixation of shoulder movements
Side affected: Right Left Both

SECTION IV - ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS
8A. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE A HISTORY OF RUPTURE OF THE DIAPHRAGM WITH HERNIATION?
(If "Yes," ALSO complete VA Form 21-0960H-1, Hernias (Including Abdominal, Inguinal, and Femoral Hernias) Disability Benefits Questionnaire) 8B. DQES THE VETERAN HAVE A HISTORY OF AN EXTENSIVE MUSCLE HERNIA OF ANY MUSCLE, WITHOUT OTHER INJURY TO THE MUSCLE?
(If "Yes," provide name of muscle and describe current residuals):
8C. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE A HISTORY OF INJURY TO THE FACIAL MUSCLES?
(If "Yes," complete VA Form 21-0960C-3, Cranial Nerve Conditions Disability Benefits Questionnaire or VA Form 21-0960F-1, Scars/Disfigurement Disability Benefits Questionnaire, etc., as indicated by type of residuals)
(If "Yes," is there interference to any extent with mastication?)
YES NO
SECTION V - MUSCLE INJURY EXAM
SCAR, FACSIA AND MUSCLE FINDINGS
9A. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE ANY SCAR(S) ASSOCIATED WITH A MUSCLE INJURY?
YES NO
(If "Yes," indicate severity of scar(s) caused by the muscle injury (ies) (check all that apply if there is more than one area or type of scarring):
Minimal scar(s)
Entrance and (if present) exit scars are small or linear, indicating short track of missile through muscle tissue Entrance and (if present) exit scars indicating track of missile through one or more muscle groups
Ragged, depressed and adherent scars indicating wide damage to muscle groups in missile track
Adhesion of scar to one of the long bones, scapula, pelvic bones, sacrum or vertebrae, with epithelial sealing over the bone
□ rather than true skin covering in an area where bone is normally protected by muscle
Other (including surgical scars related to muscle injuries shown above, ALSO complete VA Form 21-0960F-1, Scars/Disfigurement Disability Benefits Questionnaire):
9B. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE ANY KNOWN FASCIAL DEFECTS OR EVIDENCE OF FASCIAL DEFECTS ASSOCIATED WITH ANY MUSCLE INJURIES?
YES NO
(If "Yes," indicate severity of fascial defect(s) caused by the muscle injury(ies) (check all that apply if there is more than one area/type of fascial defect)
Some loss of deep fascia
Palpation shows loss of deep fascia
Other, describe:
9C. DOES THE VETERAN'S MUSCLE INJURY(IES) AFFECT MUSCLE SUBSTANCE OR FUNCTION?
YES NO
(If "Yes," indicate effect of the muscle injury(ies) on muscle substance or function - check all that apply)
Some impairment of muscle tonus
Some loss of muscle substance
Soft flabby muscles in wound area
Muscles swell and harden abnormally in contraction
Induration or atrophy of an entire muscle following history of simple piercing by a projectile
Adaptive contraction of an opposing group of muscles
☐ Visible or measurable atrophy
Atrophy of muscle groups not in the track of the missile, particularly of the trapezius and serratus in wounds of the shoulder girdle
Tests of endurance or coordinated movements compared with the corresponding muscles of the uninjured side indicate severe impairment of function
Other, describe:

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SECTION V - MUSCLE INJURY EXAM (Continued)
CARDINAL SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF MUSCLE DISABILITY 10. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SIGNS AND/OR SYMPTOMS ATTRIBUTABLE TO ANY MUSCLE INJURIES?
(If "Yes," check all that apply, and indicate side affected, muscle group and frequency/severity):
(If checked, indicate side affected): Right Left Both
(Indicate muscle group(s) affected (I-XXIII) if possible):
(Indicate frequency/severity): Occasional Consistent Consistent at a more severe level
│ Weakness (If checked, indicate side affected): │ Right │ Left │ Both
(Indicate muscle group(s) affected (I-XXIII) if possible):
(Indicate frequency/severity): Occasional Consistent Consistent at a more severe level
(If checked, indicate sided affected): Right Left Both (Indicate muscle group(s) affected (I-XXIII) if possible):
(Indicate frequency/severity): Occasional Consistent Consistent at a more severe level
(If checked, indicate side affected):
(Indicate muscle group(s) affected (I-XXIII) if possible):
(Indicate frequency/severity): Occasional Consistent Consistent at a more severe level
(If checked, indicate side affected):
(Indicate muscle group(s) affected (I-XXIII) if possible):
(Indicate frequency/severity):
(If checked, indicate side affected):
(Indicate muscle group(s) affected (I-XXIII) if possible):
(Indicate frequency/severity):
If further clarification is needed due to injuries of multiple muscle groups, describe which findings, signs and/or symptoms are attributable to each muscle injury:

	SECTION V - MUSCLE INJURY EXAM (Continued)
	MUSCLE STRENGTH TESTING
11A. TEST MUSCLE STRENGTH ONLY FOR RATE STRENGTH ACCORDING TO THE F	R AFFECTED MUSCLE GROUPS AND FOR THE CORRESPONDING SOUND (NON-INJURED) SIDE. OLLOWING SCALE:
0/5 No muscle movement	
1/5 Visible muscle movement, but no joint mo	ovement
2/5 No movement against gravity	
3/5 No movement against resistance	
4/5 Less than normal strength	
5/5 Normal strength	
Shoulder abduction (Group III)	Right: 5/5 4/5 3/5 2/5 1/5 0/5 Left: 5/5 4/5 3/5 2/5 1/5 0/5
Elbow flexion (Group V)	Right: 5/5 4/5 3/5 2/5 0/5 Left: 5/5 4/5 3/5 2/5 1/5 0/5
Elbow extension (Group VI)	Right: 5/5 4/5 3/5 2/5 1/5 0/5 Left: 5/5 4/5 3/5 2/5 1/5 0/5
Wrist flexion (Group VII)	Right:     5/5     4/5     3/5     2/5     1/5     0/5       Left:     5/5     4/5     3/5     2/5     1/5     0/5
Wrist extension (Group VIII)	Right:     5/5     4/5     3/5     2/5     1/5     0/5       Left:     5/5     4/5     3/5     2/5     1/5     0/5
Hip flexion (Group XVI)	Right: 5/5 4/5 3/5 2/5 1/5 0/5 Left: 5/5 4/5 3/5 2/5 1/5 0/5
Knee flexion (Group XIII)	Right:       5/5       4/5       3/5       2/5       1/5       0/5         Left:       5/5       4/5       3/5       2/5       1/5       0/5
Knee extension (Group XIV)	Right:       5/5       4/5       3/5       2/5       1/5       0/5         Left:       5/5       4/5       3/5       2/5       1/5       0/5
Ankle plantar flexion (Group XI)	Right: 5/5 4/5 3/5 2/5 1/5 0/5 Left: 5/5 4/5 3/5 2/5 1/5 0/5
Ankle dorsiflexion (Group XII)	Right: 5/5 4/5 3/5 2/5 0/5 Left: 5/5 4/5 3/5 2/5 1/5 0/5
If other movements/muscle groups were tested, specify:	Right:5/54/53/52/51/50/5 Left:5/54/53/52/51/50/5
11B. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE MUSCLE	ATROPHY?
(If muscle atrophy is present, indicate local	tion (such as calf, thigh, forearm, upper arm):
(Indicate side affected): Right	Left Both
(Indicate muscle group(s) affected (I-X	
	ers of normal side and atrophied side, measured at maximum muscle bulk:
Normal side:	cm. Atrophied side: cm.
	e than one muscle group, provide location and measurements, using the same format:
	SECTION VI - ASSISTIVE DEVICES
12. DOES THE VETERAN USE ANY ASSIST MAY BE POSSIBLE? YES NO	IVE DEVICES AS A NORMAL MODE OF LOCOMOTION, ALTHOUGH OCCASIONAL LOCOMOTION BY OTHER METHODS
(If "Yes," identify assistive devices used (che	ck all that apply and indicate frequency):
Wheelchair Fi	requency of use: Occasional Regular Constant
Brace(s) Fi	requency of use: Occasional Regular Constant
Crutch(es) Fi	requency of use: Occasional Regular Constant
	requency of use: Occasional Regular Constant
	requency of use: Occasional Regular Oconstant
Other: Fr	requency of use: Occasional Regular Constant
(If the veteran uses any assistive devices spe	ecify the condition and identify the assistive device used for each condition):

13. DUE TO THE VETERAN'S MUSCLE CONDITIONS IS THERE FUNCTIONAL IMPAIRMENT OF AN EXTREMITY SUCH THAT NO EFFECTIVE         FUNCTION REMAINS OTHER THAN THAT WHICH WOULD BE EQUALLY WELL SERVED BY AN AMPUTATION WITH PROSTHESIS? (Functions of the upper extremity include grasping, manipulation, etc., while functions for the lower extremity include balance and propulsion, etc.)         YES, FUNCTIONING IS SO DIMINISHED THAT AMPUTATION WITH PROSTHESIS WOULD EQUALLY SERVE THE VETERAN         NO         (If "Yes," indicate extremity(ies) for which this applies):         Right upper         Left lower         (For each checked extremity, identify the condition causing loss of function, describe loss of effective function and provide specific examples - brief summary)         SECTION VIII - OTHER PERTINENT PHYSICAL FINDINGS, COMPLICATIONS, CONDITIONS, SIGNS AND/OR SYMPTOMS         14. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE ANY OTHER PERTINENT PHYSICAL FINDINGS, COMPLICATIONS, SIGNS AND/OR SYMPTOMS?         YES       NO         YES       NO         SECTION VIII - OTHER PERTINENT PHYSICAL FINDINGS, COMPLICATIONS, CONDITIONS, SIGNS AND/OR SYMPTOMS?         14. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE ANY OTHER PERTINENT PHYSICAL FINDINGS, COMPLICATIONS, CONDITIONS, SIGNS AND/OR SYMPTOMS?         YES       NO         YES       NO         (If "Yes," describe - brief summary)
YES, FUNCTIONING IS SO DIMINISHED THAT AMPUTATION WITH PROSTHESIS WOULD EQUALLY SERVE THE VETERAN          NO       NO         (If "Yes," indicate extremity(ies) for which this applies):       Right upper         Right upper       Left upper         Right in the condition causing loss of function, describe loss of effective function and provide specific examples - brief summary)         SECTION VIII - OTHER PERTINENT PHYSICAL FINDINGS, COMPLICATIONS, CONDITIONS, SIGNS AND/OR SYMPTOMS         14. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE ANY OTHER PERTINENT PHYSICAL FINDINGS, COMPLICATIONS, CONDITIONS, SIGNS AND/OR SYMPTOMS?         YES       NO         (If "Yes," describe - brief summary)
(If "Yes," indicate extremity(ies) for which this applies): <ul> <li>Right upper</li> <li>Left upper</li> <li>Right lower</li> <li>Left lower</li> <li>(For each checked extremity, identify the condition causing loss of function, describe loss of effective function and provide specific examples - brief summary)</li> </ul> <li>SECTION VIII - OTHER PERTINENT PHYSICAL FINDINGS, COMPLICATIONS, CONDITIONS, SIGNS AND/OR SYMPTOMS</li> <li>14. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE ANY OTHER PERTINENT PHYSICAL FINDINGS, COMPLICATIONS, CONDITIONS, SIGNS AND/OR SYMPTOMS?</li> <li>YES</li> <li>NO (If "Yes," describe - brief summary)</li>
(For each checked extremity, identify the condition causing loss of function, describe loss of effective function and provide specific examples - brief summary)           SECTION VIII - OTHER PERTINENT PHYSICAL FINDINGS, COMPLICATIONS, CONDITIONS, SIGNS AND/OR SYMPTOMS           14. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE ANY OTHER PERTINENT PHYSICAL FINDINGS, COMPLICATIONS, CONDITIONS, SIGNS AND/OR SYMPTOMS?           YES         NO           NO         (If "Yes," describe - brief summary)
SECTION VIII - OTHER PERTINENT PHYSICAL FINDINGS, COMPLICATIONS, CONDITIONS, SIGNS AND/OR SYMPTOMS         14. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE ANY OTHER PERTINENT PHYSICAL FINDINGS, COMPLICATIONS, CONDITIONS, SIGNS AND/OR SYMPTOMS?            YES        NO
14. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE ANY OTHER PERTINENT PHYSICAL FINDINGS, COMPLICATIONS, CONDITIONS, SIGNS AND/OR SYMPTOMS?           YES         NO         (If "Yes," describe - brief summary)
14. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE ANY OTHER PERTINENT PHYSICAL FINDINGS, COMPLICATIONS, CONDITIONS, SIGNS AND/OR SYMPTOMS?
YES NO (If "Yes," describe - brief summary)
SECTION IX - DIAGNOSTIC TESTING
NOTE - If there is reason to believe there are retained metallic fragments in the muscle tissue, appropriate x-rays are required to determine location of retained metallic fragment. Once retained metallic fragments have been documented, further imaging studies are usually not indicated.
15A. HAVE IMAGING STUDIES BEEN PERFORMED AND ARE THE RESULTS AVAILABLE?
15B. IS THERE X-RAY EVIDENCE OF RETAINED METALLIC FRAGMENTS (such as shell fragments or shrapnel) IN ANY MUSCLE GROUP?
YES    NO (If "Yes," indicate results):     X-ray evidence of retained shell fragment(s) and/or shrapnel
Location (specify muscle Group I-XXIII, if possible):
(Indicate side affected): Right Left Both
X-ray evidence of minute multiple scattered foreign bodies indicating intermuscular trauma and explosive effect of the missile
Location (specify muscle Group I -XXIII, if possible):         (Indicate side affected):          Right         Left         Both
15C. WERE ELECTRODIAGNOSTIC TESTS DONE?
YES       NO (If "Yes," was there diminished muscle excitability to pulsed electrical current?)         YES       NO (If "Yes," name affected muscles)
15D. ARE THERE ANY OTHER SIGNIFICANT DIAGNOSTIC TEST FINDINGS AND/OR RESULTS?
YES NO (If "Yes," provide type of test or procedure, date and results - brief summary)
SECTION X - FUNCTIONAL IMPACT
16. DOES THE VETERAN'S MUSCLE INJURY(IES) IMPACT HIS OR HER ABILITY TO WORK? (For example the muscle injury(ies) results in the veteran's inability to keep up with work requirements)           YES         NO         (If "Yes," describe the impact of each of the veteran's muscle injuries, providing one or more examples):
SECTION XI - REMARKS
17. REMARKS (If any)
SECTION XII- PHYSICIAN'S CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE
CERTIFICATION - To the best of my knowledge, the information contained herein is accurate, complete and current.
18A. PHYSICIAN'S SIGNATURE     18B. PHYSICIAN'S PRINTED NAME     18C. DATE SIGNED
18D. PHYSICIAN'S PHONE AND FAX NUMBER 18E. PHYSICIAN'S MEDICAL LICENSE NUMBER 18F. PHYSICIAN'S ADDRESS
NOTE - VA may request additional medical information, including additional examinations, if necessary to complete VA's review of the veteran's application.
IMPORTANT - Physician please fax the completed form to
(VA Regional Office FAX No.)
NOTE - A list of VA Regional Office FAX Numbers can be found at <u>www.vba.va.gov/disabilityexams</u> or obtained by calling 1-800-827-1000. PRIVACY ACT NOTICE: 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, 58/VA21/22/28, Compensation, Pension, Education and Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Records - VA, published in the Federal Register. Your obligation to respond is required to obtain or retain benefits. 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. VA will not deny an individual benefits for refusing to provide his or her SSN unless the disclosure of the SSN 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 under the law. The responses you submit are considered confidential (38 U.S.C. 5701). Information submitted is subject to verification through computer matching programs with other agencies.
RESPONDENT BURDEN: We need this information to determine entitlement to benefits (38 U.S.C. 501). Title 38, United States Code, 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 the 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 <a href="http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain">www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain</a> . If desired, you can call 1-800-827-1000 to get information on where to send comments or suggestions about this form.