## **Department of Veterans Affairs**

## Peripheral Nerves Conditions (Not Including Diabetic Sensory- Motor Peripheral

**Neuropathy) Disability Benefits Questionnaire** IMPORTANT - THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (VA) WILL NOT PAY OR REIMBURSE ANY EXPENSES OR COST INCURRED IN THE PROCESS OF COMPLETING AND/OR SUBMITTING THIS FORM. PLEASE READ THE PRIVACY ACT AND RESPONDENT BURDEN INFORMATION BEFORE COMPLETING FORM. NAME OF PATIENT/VETERAN PATIENT/VETERAN'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER NOTE TO PHYSICIAN - Your patient is applying to the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for disability benefits. VA will consider the information you provide on this questionnaire as part of their evaluation in processing the veteran's claim. **SECTION I - DIAGNOSIS** 1A. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE A PERIPHERAL NERVE CONDITION OR PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY? No (If "Yes," complete Item 1B) 1B. PROVIDE ONLY DIAGNOSES THAT PERTAIN TO A PERIPHERAL NERVE CONDITION AND/OR PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY: Diagnosis # 1: ICD Code: Date of diagnosis: Diagnosis # 2: ICD Code: Date of diagnosis: ICD Code: Diagnosis # 3: Date of diagnosis: 1C. IF THERE ARE ADDITIONAL DIAGNOSES THAT PERTAIN TO A PERIPHERAL NERVE CONDITION AND/OR PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY, LIST USING ABOVE FORMAT: DEFINITIONS: For VA purposes, neuralgia indicates a condition characterized by a dull and intermittent pain of typical distribution so as to identify the nerve, while neuritis is characterized by loss of reflexes, muscle atrophy, sensory disturbances and constant pain, at times excruciating. SECTION II - MEDICAL HISTORY 2A. DESCRIBE THE HISTORY (including onset and course) OF THE VETERAN'S PERIPHERAL NERVE CONDITION (brief summary): 2B. DOMINANT HAND Right Left Ambidextrous **SECTION III - SYMPTOMS** 3A. Does the veteran have any symptoms attributable to any peripheral nerve conditions? If yes, indicate symptoms' location and severity (check all that apply): Constant pain (may be excruciating at times) Right upper extremity: None Mild Moderate Severe None Mild Moderate Severe Left upper extremity: Right lower extremity: None Mild Moderate Severe None Mild Moderate Severe Left lower extremity: Intermittent pain (usually dull) Right upper extremity: None Mild Moderate Severe None Mild Moderate Severe Left upper extremity: None Mild Moderate Severe Right lower extremity: None Mild Moderate Severe Left lower extremity: Paresthesias and/or dysesthesias Right upper extremity: None Mild Moderate Severe None Mild Moderate Severe Left upper extremity: None Mild Moderate Severe Right lower extremity: None Mild Moderate Severe Left lower extremity:

SECTION III - SYMPTOMS (Continued)									
	3A. Does the veteran have any symptoms attributable to any peripheral nerve conditions? (Continued)								
Numbness Right upper extremity:	<u>-</u>	None	Mile	ia 🔲	Moderate		Severe		
Left upper extremity:		None	Mile	=	Moderate	=	Severe		
Right lower extremity:		None	Mile	=	Moderate	=	Severe		
Left lower extremity:		None	Mile	=	Moderate	=	Severe		
3B. Other symptoms (describ	be symptom	is, location	and severity	 y):					
	• =								
				SECTION	IV - MUS	CLE ST	RENGTH TE	ESTING	
4A. Rate strength according	to the follow	ving scale:							
0/5 No muscle									
1/5 Palpable o				joint move	ment				
2/5 Active mov			ninated						
3/5 Active mov 4/5 Active mov	<del>-</del>		osistance						
5/5 Normal str	•	illot some ic	3818141106						
All normal	Cilgui								
Elbow flexion:	Right:	5/5	4/5	3/5	2/5	1/9	5 0/5		
2.000	Left:	5/5	4/5	3/5	2/5	1/s	=		
Elbow extension:	Right:	5/5	4/5	3/5	2/5	1/s	=		
	Left:	5/5	4/5	3/5	2/5	1/5	5 0/5		
Wrist flexion:	Right:	5/5	4/5	3/5	2/5	1/5	5 0/5		
	Left:	5/5	4/5	3/5	2/5	1/5	=		
Wrist extension:	Right:	5/5	4/5	3/5	2/5	1/5	=		
	Left:	5/5	4/5	3/5	2/5	1/5	=		
Grip:	Right:	5/5 5/5	4/5	3/5	2/5	1/s	=		
	Left:	5/5 5/5	4/5 4/5	3/5	2/5 2/5	1/5	=		
Pinch (thumb to index finger):	Right: Left:	5/5	4/5	3/5	2/5	1/9	=		
Knee extension:	Right:	5/5	4/5	3/5	2/5	1/5	=		
	Left:	5/5	4/5	3/5	2/5	1/5	=		
Ankle plantar flexion:	Right:	5/5	4/5	3/5	2/5	1/5	=		
, p	Left:	5/5	4/5	3/5	2/5	1/5	5 0/5		
Ankle dorsiflexion:	Right:	5/5	4/5	3/5	2/5	1/5	=		
	Left:	5/5	4/5	3/5	2/5	1/5	5 0/5		
4B. Does the veteran have m	nuscle atrop	hy?							
Yes No									
If muscle atrophy is present									
For each instance of muscl	le atrophy, p	rovide mea	surements ir	n centimete	ers of norma	al side and	atrophied sid	de, measured at maximum mus	cle bulk:
	Normal s	side:		_ cm		Atrop	ohied side:	cm	
				S	ECTION V	/ - REFL	EX EXAM		
5. Rate deep tendon reflexes (DTRs) according to the following scale:									
0 - Absent 1+ Hypoactive	<b>a</b>								
2+ Normal	•								
3+ Hyperactive	e without clo	onus							
4+ Hyperactive with clonus									
All normal									
Biceps	Right:	o	1+	2+	3+	4+	F		
	Left:	□ 0	1+	2+	3+	4+			
Triceps	Right:	☐ 0 ☐ 0	∐ 1+ □ 4.	2+	3+	4+			
Brachioradialis	Left:	☐ 0 ☐ 0	∐ 1+ □ 1±	2+ 2+	3+	∐ 4+ □ 4±			
Bracilioradians	Right: Left:	☐ 0 ☐ 0	☐ 1+ ☐ 1+	2+ 2+	3+	4+			
Knee	Right:		1+	2+	3+	4+			
Tuise	Left:		1+	2+	3+	4+			
Ankle	Right:		1+	2+	3+	4+			
	Left:	o	1+	2+	3+	4+	+		

	SECTION VI - SENSORY EXAM				
6. Indicate results for sensation tes	ting for light touch:				
All normal					
Shoulder area (C5):	Right: Normal Decreased Absent				
	Left: Normal Decreased Absent				
Inner/outer forearm (C6/T1):	Right: Normal Decreased Absent				
	Left: Normal Decreased Absent				
Hand/fingers (C6-8):	Right: Normal Decreased Absent				
	Left: Normal Decreased Absent				
Upper anterior thigh (L2):	Right: Normal Decreased Absent				
	Left: Normal Decreased Absent				
Thigh/knee (L3/4):	Right: Normal Decreased Absent				
	Left: Normal Decreased Absent				
Lower leg/ankle (L4/L5/S1):	Right: Normal Decreased Absent				
Foot/toes (L5):	Left: Normal Decreased Absent				
1 0001063 (E3).	Right: Normal Decreased Absent  Left: Normal Decreased Absent				
Other sensory findings, if any					
	SECTION VII - TROPHIC CHANGES				
7. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE TR	OPHIC CHANGES (characterized by loss of extremity hair, smooth, shiny skin, etc.) ATTRIBUTABLE TO PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY?				
Yes No					
If yes, describe:					
	SECTION VIII - GAIT				
8. IS THE VETERAN'S GAIT NORM	MAL?				
Yes No					
If no, describe abnormal gait:					
Provide etiology of abnormal	gait:				
	SECTION IX - SPECIAL TESTS FOR MEDIAN NERVE				
9. WERE SPECIAL TESTS INDICA	TED AND PERFORMED FOR MEDIAN NERVE EVALUATION?				
Yes No					
If yes, indicate results:					
Phalen's sign: Right:	Positive Negative				
Left:	Positive Negative				
Tinel's sign: Right:	Positive Negative				
Left:	Positive Negative				
SE/	CTION V NEDVES AFFECTED: Soverity Evaluation for Union Extremity Nerves and Redicular Crouns				
SECTION X - NERVES AFFECTED: Severity Evaluation for Upper Extremity Nerves and Radicular Groups					
Based on symptoms and findings from this exam, complete the following section to provide an estimation of the severity of the veteran's peripheral neuropathy. This summary provides useful information for VA purposes.					
NOTE: For VA purposes, the term "incomplete paralysis" indicates a degree of lost or impaired function substantially less than the description of complete paralysis that is given with each nerve.					
If the name is completely march and about the boy for "complete march size" "If the march size of completely march size of the					
If the nerve is completely paralyzed, check the box for "complete paralysis." If the nerve is not completely paralyzed, check the box for "incomplete paralysis" and indicate severity. For VA purposes, when nerve impairment is wholly sensory, the evaluation should be mild, or at most, moderate.					

	SECTION X - NERVES AFFECTED: Severity Evaluation for Upper Extremity Nerves and Radicular Groups (Continued)					
	NOTE: INDICATE THE AFFECTED NERVES, SIDE AFFECTED AND SEVERITY OF CONDITION.					
10A	10A. Radial nerve (musculospiral nerve)					
		plete paralysis (hand and fingers drop, wrist and fingers flexed; cannot extend hand at wrist, extend proximal phalanges of fingers, extend thumb or all movement of wrist; supination of hand, elbow extension and flexion weak, hand grip impaired)				
	Right:	□ Normal    □ Incomplete paralysis    □ Complete paralysis				
	-	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
		Mild Moderate Severe				
	Left:	☐ Normal ☐ Incomplete paralysis ☐ Complete paralysis				
		If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
		Mild Moderate Severe				
10E	3. Median ne	rve				
		plete paralysis (hand inclined to the ulnar side, index and middle fingers extended, atrophy of thenar eminence, cannot make fist, defective opposition cannot flex distal phalanx of thumb; wrist flexion weak)				
	Right:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
		If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
		Mild Moderate Severe				
	Left:	☐ Normal ☐ Incomplete paralysis ☐ Complete paralysis				
		If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
		Mild Moderate Severe				
100	C. Ulnar nerv	re				
	Note: Com	plete paralysis ("griffin claw" deformity, atrophy in dorsal interspaces, thenar and hypothenar eminences; cannot extend ring and little finger, cannot gers, cannot adduct the thumb; wrist flexion weakened)				
	Right:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
		If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
		Mild Moderate Severe				
	Left:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
	20.1.	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
		Mild Moderate Severe				
105						
10L		utaneous nerve				
	Note: Comp	plete paralysis (weakened flexion of elbow and supination of forearm)				
	Right:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
		If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
		Mild Moderate Severe				
	Left:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
		If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
		Mild Moderate Severe				
105	E. Circumflex	non/o				
IUE		nerve plete paralysis (innervates deltoid and teres minor; cannot abduct arm, outward rotation is weakened)				
	Right:	Normal  ☐ Incomplete paralysis ☐ Complete paralysis If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
		Mild Moderate Severe				
	1 -4.					
	Left:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
		If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:  Mild Moderate Severe				
		Mild Moderate Severe				
10F	Long thora	cic nerve				
	Note: Comp	olete paralysis (inability to raise arm above shoulder level, winged scapula deformity)				
	Right:	☐ Normal ☐ Incomplete paralysis ☐ Complete paralysis				
		If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
		Mild Moderate Severe				
	Left:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
		If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
		Mild Moderate Severe				
1						

	SECTION X - NERVES AFFECTED: Severity Evaluation for Upper Extremity Nerves and Radicular Groups (Continued)				
10G. Upper radicular group (5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> cervicals)					
Note: Con	nplete paralysis (all shoulder and elbow movements lost; hand and wrist movements not affected)				
Right:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
1g	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
	Mild Moderate Severe				
Left:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
	Mild Moderate Severe				
10H. Middle rad					
	plete paralysis (adduction, abduction, rotation of arm, flexion of elbow and extension of wrist lost)				
Right:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
	Mild Moderate Severe				
Left:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
Lort.					
	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
	Mild Moderate Severe				
10I. Lower radio	cular group				
Note: Com	plete paralysis (intrinsic hand muscles, wrist and finger flexors paralyzed; substantial loss of use of hand)				
Right:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
1	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
	Mild Moderate Severe				
	Wild Wilderate Severe				
Left:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
	Mild Moderate Severe				
	SECTION XI - NERVES AFFECTED: Severity Evaluation for Lower Extremity Nerves				
	nptoms and findings from this exam, complete the following section to provide an estimation of the severity of the veteran's peripheral This summary provides useful information for VA purposes.				
	A purposes, the term "incomplete paralysis" indicates a degree of lost or impaired function substantially less than the description of complete is given with each nerve.				
	s completely paralyzed, check the box for "complete paralysis." If the nerve is not completely paralyzed, check the box for "incomplete d indicate severity. For VA purposes, when nerve impairment is wholly sensory, the evaluation should be mild, or at most, moderate.				
NOTE: INDICA	ATE AFFECTED NERVES, SIDE AFFECTED AND SEVERITY OF CONDITION.				
11A. Sciatic ner	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
	plete paralysis (foot dangles and drops, no active movement of muscles below the knee, flexion of knee weakened or lost)				
Right:	☐ Normal ☐ Incomplete paralysis ☐ Complete paralysis				
	If incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
	Mild Moderate Moderately Severe Severe, with marked muscular atrophy				
Left:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
	If incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
	☐ Mild ☐ Moderate ☐ Moderately Severe ☐ Severe, with marked muscular atrophy				
11B. External popliteal (common peroneal) nerve					
Note: Complete paralysis (foot drop, cannot dorsiflex foot or extend toes; dorsum of foot and toes are numb)					
· ·					
Right:	☐ Normal ☐ Incomplete paralysis ☐ Complete paralysis				
	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
	Mild Moderate Severe				
Left:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
	Mild Moderate Severe				
11C. Musculocutaneous (superficial peroneal) nerve					
Note: Complete paralysis (eversion of foot weakened)					
Right:	L L DICHORI L L L DICONDIÈRE DATAIVSIS L L COMDIÈTE DATAIVSIS				
	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:  Mild Moderate Severe				

SECTION XI - NERVES AFFECTED: Severity Evaluation for Lower Extremity Nerves (Continued)					
11C. Musculocutaneous (superficial peroneal) nerve (continued)					
Left:	□ Normal □ Incomplete paralysis □ Complete paralysis				
	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
	Mild Moderate Severe				
11D. Anterior	tibial (deep peroneal) nerve				
Note: Co	mplete paralysis (dorsiflexion of foot lost)				
Right:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
	Mild Moderate Severe				
Left:	Normal ☐ Incomplete paralysis ☐ Complete paralysis				
	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
	Mild Moderate Severe				
11E. Internal p	popliteal (tibial) nerve				
	mplete paralysis (plantar flexion lost, frank adduction of foot impossible, flexion and separation of toes abolished; no muscle in sole can move; in lesions				
-	rve high in popliteal fossa, plantar flexion of foot is lost)  Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
Right:	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
	Mild Moderate Severe				
Left:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:  Mild Moderate Severe				
11F. Posterior					
	nplete paralysis (paralysis of all muscles of sole of foot, frequently with painful paralysis of a causalgic nature; loss of toe flexion; adduction weakened;				
	exion impaired)				
Right:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
	Mild Moderate Severe				
Left:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
	Mild Moderate Severe				
11G. Anterior of	crural (femoral) nerve				
	mplete paralysis (paralysis of quadriceps extensor muscles)				
Right:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
	Mild Moderate Severe				
Left:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
	Mild Moderate Severe				
	aphenous nerve				
Right:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis  If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
	Mild Moderate Severe				
1 . 6					
Left:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:  Mild Moderate Severe				
11I. Obturator					
Right:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
	Mild Moderate Severe				
Left:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis				
	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:				
	Mild Moderate Severe				

	SECTION XI - NERVES AFFECTED: Severity Evaluation for Lower Extremity Nerves (Continued)			
11J. External c	cutaneous nerve of the thigh			
Right:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis			
	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:			
	Mild Moderate Severe			
Left:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis			
	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:			
	Mild Moderate Severe			
11K. Illio-inguin	nal nerve			
Right:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis			
	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:			
	Mild Moderate Severe			
Left:	Normal Incomplete paralysis Complete paralysis			
	If Incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity:			
	Mild Moderate Severe			
404 DOEC TU	SECTION XII - ASSISTIVE DEVICES			
	E VETERAN USE ANY ASSISTIVE DEVICES AS A NORMAL MODE OF LOCOMOTION ALTHOUGH OCCASIONAL LOCOMOTION BY OTHER METHODS POSSIBLE?			
YES	□ NO			
If yes, identify	r assistive device(s) used (check all that apply and indicate frequency):			
Wheelch				
Brace(s)	Frequency of use: Occasional Regular Constant			
Crutch(e				
Cane(s)	Frequency of use: Occasional Regular Constant			
Walker	Frequency of use: Occasional Regular Constant			
Other:				
	Frequency of use: Occasional Regular Constant			
12B. IF THE VE	ETERAN USES ANY ASSISTIVE DEVICES, SPECIFY THE CONDITION AND IDENTIFY THE ASSISTIVE DEVICE USED FOR EACH CONDITION:			
	SECTION XIII - REMAINING EFFECTIVE FUNCTION OF THE EXTREMITIES			
	eripheral nerve conditions, is there functional impairment of an extremity such that no effective function remains other than that which would			
	ly well served by an amputation with prosthesis? (Functions of the upper extremity include grasping, manipulation, etc., while functions for extremity include balance and propulsion, etc.)			
ine lower e	extremity include valance and propaiston, etc.)			
Yes, fund	ctioning is so diminished that amputation with prosthesis would equally serve the veteran			
☐ No				
If yes in	ndicate extremity(ies) (check all extremities for which this applies):			
1 –				
Li	ght upper Left upper Right lower Left lower			
For each checked extremity, describe loss of effective function, identify the condition causing loss of function, and provide specific examples (brief summary):				
111 5050 511	SECTION XIV - OTHER PERTINENT PHYSICAL FINDINGS, COMPLICATIONS, CONDITIONS, SIGNS OR SYMPTOMS			
	HE VETERAN HAVE ANY SCARS (surgical or otherwise) RELATED TO ANY CONDITIONS OR TO THE TREATMENT OF ANY CONDITIONS LISTED IN II, DIAGNOSIS?			
Yes	No No			
If you are any of the scare pointill and/or unstable, or is the total area of all related scare greater than or equal to 30 equate cm (6 equate inches)?				
If yes, are any of the scars painful and/or unstable, or is the total area of all related scars greater than or equal to 39 square cm (6 square inches)?				
L Yes No				
If "Yes, also complete VA Form 21-0960F-1, Scars/Disfigurement Disability Benefits Questionnaire.				
14B. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE ANY OTHER PERTINENT PHYSICAL FINDINGS, COMPLICATIONS, CONDTIONS, SIGNS OR SYMPTOMS?				
Yes No (If yes, describe (brief summary):				

SECTION XV - DIAGNOSTIC TESTING					
<b>NOTE</b> : For the purpose of this examination, ele appropriate clinical setting. If EMG studies are					
15A. HAVE EMG STUDIES BEEN PERFORMED?    Yes					
	SECT	ION XVI - FUNCTIONAL IMI	PACT		
Yes No  If yes, describe impact of each of the veteran's peripheral nerve and/or peripheral neuropathy condition(s), providing one or more examples:  SECTION XVII - REMARKS  17. REMARKS (If any)					
		SICIAN'S CERTIFICATION			
<b>CERTIFICATION</b> - To the best of my kr	nowledge, the in	formation contained herein is	s accurate,	complete and current.	
18A. PHYSICIAN'S SIGNATURE	18B. PHYSICIAN'S PRINTED N	IAME		18C. DATE SIGNED	
18D. PHYSICIAN'S PHONE AND FAX NUMBER	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		gional Office	e FAX No.)	_
NOTE - A list of VA Regional Office FAX Numbers can be found at <a href="https://www.benefits.va.gov/disabilityexams">www.benefits.va.gov/disabilityexams</a> or obtained by calling 1-800-827-1000.					
PRIVACY ACT NOTICE: VA will not disclos	e information colle	ected on this form to any source	other than	what has been authorized und	ler the Privacy Act of 1974 or

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, 58VA21/22/28, Compensation, Pension, Education and Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Records - VA, published in the Federal Register. Your obligation to respond is voluntary. VA uses 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 45 minutes to review the instructions, find the information, and complete a 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="https://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.