## **Sample Request for Examination**

<u>Note:</u> For purposes of this training, a request for a General Medical exam is included on this sample Exam Request. However, ordinarily, a General Medical exam would only be requested under the following specific circumstances: if the Veteran makes an original claim for service connection within one year of discharge from service, if the Veteran is claiming individual unemployability due to serviceconnected conditions, or if the Veteran is claiming (NSC) pension.

In addition, when a General Medical exam is requested, other specific examinations that do not require a specialist examiner, for example, the spine examination in this case, are not separately requested. The spine would be examined as part of the General Medical Examination. The types of exams requested in this case are meant to illustrate what information is needed from the disability exam and the use of various types of examination protocols.

Date: April 15, 2011 COMPENSATION AND PENSION EXAM REQUEST For VHA Medical Center

Requested by St Petersburg RO Date Requested: December 15, 2010

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Name: DOE, JOHN

SSN: 000 00 0000 C-Number: 000 00 0000 DOB: NOV 27, 1940

Address: 123 Veteran Street Chicago, IL 60000 Res Phone: 123 456 1234 Bus Phone: 000 000 0000

Entered active service: Jan 31, 1966 Released active service: Jan 31, 1970 Last rating exam date:

Priority of exam: Original

Selected exams: General Medical, Spine, IHD DBQ

Current rated disabilities: None

Other disabilities: None

General remarks: This is an original SC claim. Please perform a General Medical examination. Veteran is claiming service connection for:

lumbar spine condition IHD

CLAIMS FILE IS BEING SENT FOR REVIEW BY THE EXAMINER The examiner's review is not limited to the evidence identified on the request form or tabbed in the claims folder.

ISSUE 1: Veteran is claiming SC for low back condition.

## Military Service: Army from 1/1/66 to 1/1/70

## AVAILABLE EVIDENCE

SERVICE RECORDS: In the service, the Veteran was treated for lumbago 7/1/1967, lumbar strain 1/5/1969, and herniated disc of lumbar spine 12/1/69. Veteran underwent surgery on 12/12/69 at Walter Reed hospital. On exit examination dated 1/1/70, the examiner mentions residual pain and limited ROM.

PRIVATE MEDICAL RECORDS: Treatment records in C-file are tabbed and reveal treatment by Dr. Jones 1/10/2010 for herniated disc of lumbar spine, treated with injections. Multiple follow up examinations by Dr. Jones reveals ongoing LBP.

VA RECORDS: 2/1/2009 VA medical records show a diagnosis of lumbar strain and MRI dated 3/3/2009 reports herniated L5-S1. Follow up VA records reveal ongoing treatment for LBP.

REQUESTED OPINION: Veteran is claiming service connection for herniated disc of lumbar spine. Please review the medical records, evaluate for current level of disability, and give current diagnosis for claimed condition. Then provide an opinion as to whether it is as least as likely as not (at least a 50% probability) that the Veteran's claimed condition of herniated disc of lumbar spine as noted in the private MD and VA treatment records is the same as or a result of the Veteran's diagnosis of herniated disc of lumbar spine as noted during active duty.

NOTE TO EXAMINER In Your Response Please:

- 1. Identify the specific evidence you reviewed and considered in forming your opinion.
- 2. Please provide a rationale (explanation/basis) for the opinion presented.
- 3. State your conclusions using one of the following legally recognized phrases:
- a. \_\_\_\_\_is caused by or a result of
- b. \_\_\_\_\_is most likely caused by or a result of \_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_is at least as likely as not (50/50 probability) caused by or a result of \_\_\_\_\_
- d. \_\_\_\_\_is less likely as not (less than 50/50 probability caused by or a result of \_\_\_\_\_
- e. \_\_\_\_\_is not caused by or a result of \_
- f. \_\_\_\_\_I cannot resolve this issue without resort to mere speculation.

Issue #2: Veteran is claiming SC for IHD. No opinion is required since this is a presumptive SC condition. Please examine Veteran, complete an IHD DBQ and determine functional limitations related to his IHD.

## AVAILABLE EVIDENCE

SERVICE RECORDS: Veteran was in Vietnam from 2/1/67 to 12/1/67

PRIVATE MEDICAL RECORDS: Treatment records in C-file are tabbed and reveal treatment by Dr. Heart 1/10/2000 for MI, treated with hospitalization, cardiac cath and stent x1. Multiple follow up examinations by Dr. Heart reveals stable cardiac status.

VA RECORDS: 2/1/2005 VA medical records show a diagnosis of CAD treated with medications. Follow up VA records reveal ongoing treatment for CAD.

NAME OF REQUESTER: John Smith REGIONAL OFFICE: St Petersburg PHONE NUMBER: (123) 456-7890