### Description of Technical Amendment (September 6, 2017) to VHA Directive 1200.02: Research Business Operations

**Description of Amendment:** Two revisions comprise the Amendment. The first revision removes the requirement in Paragraph 5(d) for Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) or other written agreements to be submitted to ORD for purposes of VHA Directive 1200.02.

The second revision revises language in Paragraph 14(b)(2) regarding use of third party space by VA to clarify contacting the Office of Real Property for consultation regarding appropriate real property agreements. The examples were also removed because there are other types of acceptable agreements which can be used as determined by the Office of Real Property.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Non-Amended VHA Directive 1200.02</th>
<th>Amended (September 6, 2017) VHA Directive 1200.02</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Paragraph 5. THE VA MEDICAL FACILITY RESEARCH PROGRAM:</strong></td>
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<td>d. Each VA medical facility conducting research is responsible for ensuring that MOUs or other written agreements are submitted to ORD, including those for the use of the university affiliate’s IRB, IACUC, Safety committee, and Biosafety committee. Memorandums of Agreement (MOAs) that are developed to commit the VA medical facility’s research program and another entity to specific programmatic responsibilities must be submitted to ORD prior to them being signed by the VA.</td>
<td>Deleted. Paragraph 5(d) no longer exists in the amended VHA Directive 1200.02.</td>
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### Paragraph 14. RESPONSIBILITIES OF VA INVESTIGATORS:

b.(2) VA Investigators must only conduct VA research in VHA medical facility space and/or in third party space that VA has the legal authority to use for the intended purpose, and for which the parties have entered into an appropriate agreement such as a real property agreement that complies with applicable law and VA policy. Examples of these include but are not limited to a Revocable License, lease, or permit.

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The amended VHA Directive 1200.02 can be found at [http://vaww.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=5337](http://vaww.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=5337) and on the VHA Publications Websites:

- [http://vaww.va.gov/vhapublications/](http://vaww.va.gov/vhapublications/)
- [http://www.va.gov/vhapublications/](http://www.va.gov/vhapublications/)

Please send any questions regarding this technical amendment to the ORD Regulatory Mailbox at [VHACOORDRegulatory@va.gov](mailto:VHACOORDRegulatory@va.gov).