

HEARING LOSS AND TINNITUS

HEARING AND TINNITUS CLAIM CHECKLIST

A calibrated guide to service connection, audiology evidence, and VA rating rules.

CALIBRATED REFERENCE

FOUR POINTS TO UNDERSTAND

1

CONDITIONS IDENTIFIED

Hearing loss and tinnitus are claimed separately when both are present.

2

QUALIFYING TESTING

Hearing-loss evidence addresses 3.385 and rating examination requirements.

3

EXPOSURE AND TIMELINE

Service noise, onset, threshold changes, continuity, and later exposures are documented.

4

NEXUS AND CONSISTENCY

The medical opinion and lay history address the same facts and service-connection theory.

Apply the exact regulation and evidence to the individual record. A diagnosis, exposure, or test result does not replace the remaining service-connection elements.