



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.

