

# P&T AND NO-FUTURE-EXAM STATUS

Permanence, total disability, and reexamination status answer related but different questions.



|                                           |                                            |                                                              |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| TOTAL<br>Severity reaches the total level | PERMANENT<br>Expected to continue for life | EXAM STATUS<br>Routine future review generally not scheduled |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|

RULE FILE

Permanent and Total generally means the total impairment is reasonably certain to continue throughout life. P&T is important, but it is not the same as ten-year service-connection protection or a twenty-year evaluation floor.

P&T 01 | TWO FINDINGS

## TOTAL PLUS PERMANENT

Total disability

The impairment satisfies the legal basis for total disability.

+

Permanence

The impairment is reasonably certain to continue throughout the disabled person's life.

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P&T status

The file reflects both totality and permanence, often with no routine future examination.

P&T 02 | EVIDENCE OF PERMANENCE

## WHAT THE PERMANENCE FINDING CONSIDERS

LONG

Long-standing disability

Actually total disability of long duration may support permanence when the chance of improvement under treatment is remote.

LOSS

Recognized permanent losses

The regulation identifies certain permanent losses of use, blindness, helplessness, and bedridden status.

AGE

Age may be considered

Section 3.340(b) allows age to be considered in determining permanence.

P&T 03 | BOUNDARIES

## WHAT P&T DOES NOT AUTOMATICALLY MEAN

10Y

Not ten-year protection

P&T alone does not replace the separate service-connection protection clock.

20Y

Not a twenty-year floor

P&T alone does not create the protected evaluation floor in section 3.951(b).

NEVER

Not an absolute review ban

VA retains review authority in defined circumstances, including material change or possible rating error.

### READ THE ACTUAL NOTATION

Check the rating decision and codesheet for permanence, future-exam status, diagnostic-code dates, and whether total compensation is schedular or based on TDIU.

