

[Doctor's Letterhead]
Houston Medical Group
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March 3, 2025

Department of Veterans Affairs
To Whom It May Concern,

Subject: Medical Nexus Letter in Support of VA Disability Claim for John A. Doe

I, **Dr. William Stryker, MD**, am a licensed **orthopedic specialist** at **Houston Medical Group** and have been treating **John A. Doe** for his **bilateral knee pain and secondary back pain**. This letter serves as a **medical nexus statement** supporting his **VA disability claim** by providing my professional medical opinion regarding the relationship between his **current disabilities** and his **military service**.

Patient Information:

- **Patient Name:** John A. Doe
- **Patient Address:** 123 Veteran Rd., Houston, TX 12345
- **Primary Disability:** Bilateral Knee Pain
- **Secondary Disability:** Back Pain
- **Initial Diagnosis Date:** July 2013
- **Treatment Facility:** Ft. Bragg Medical Facility

Medical History and Current Condition

Mr. Doe was diagnosed with **bilateral knee pain** in **July 2013** while stationed at **Ft. Bragg, North Carolina**. Since his diagnosis, his condition has **persisted and worsened**, despite medical treatment. His symptoms include:

- **Chronic pain in both knees**
- **Swelling, stiffness, and limited mobility**
- **Knee instability and weakness**, leading to difficulty walking and increased risk of falls
- **Popping and grinding sensations** in the knees, further restricting movement

As a result of **long-term compensatory movements and altered gait mechanics**, he has developed **secondary back pain**, which is directly related to the biomechanical changes caused by his knee condition. His **limited mobility and instability have contributed to improper weight distribution**, leading to **lumbar strain and chronic musculoskeletal discomfort**.

Current Treatment Plan

Mr. Doe has been under continuous treatment, including:

- **Pain management with Naproxen and Advil** to reduce inflammation and discomfort.
- **Physical therapy sessions** aimed at maintaining strength and mobility.
- **Use of a knee brace** to provide stability and support.

Despite these interventions, Mr. Doe's **mobility remains significantly impaired, and his pain continues to persist.**

Medical Nexus Opinion

Based on my **medical expertise, review of Mr. Doe's medical history, and clinical evaluation**, it is my professional opinion that:

1. **It is at least as likely as not (50% or greater probability) that Mr. Doe's bilateral knee condition is directly related to his military service at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina.**
2. **It is at least as likely as not (50% or greater probability) that Mr. Doe's secondary back pain is caused or aggravated by his service-connected bilateral knee condition.**

Conclusion

Given the **chronic and progressively worsening nature of Mr. Doe's knee pain and its direct impact on his back pain**, I strongly support his **VA disability claim for service connection**. His **functional limitations, medical history, and continued need for treatment** confirm that his condition is **service-related** and has **severely impacted his quality of life**.

If any additional medical documentation or clarification is required, please feel free to contact my office at **(718) 242-5254**.

Sincerely,

William Stryker

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