

AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD DECISIONAL DOCUMENT

SUMMARY: The applicant was discharged on 31 October 2008 in accordance with (IAW) AFI 36-3208, *Administrative Separation of Airmen* with a “Entry Level Discharge” after “Fraudulent Entry Into Military Service.” The applicant appealed for an upgrade of his discharge characterization, a change to the discharge narrative reason, and a change to the reenlistment eligibility (RE) code.

The applicant was not represented by counsel.

The applicant requested the board be completed based on a “records review” only. The Board was conducted on 02 March 2023.

The attached examiner’s brief (provided to applicant only), extracted from available service records, contains pertinent data regarding the circumstances and character of the applicant’s military service.

DISCUSSION: The Air Force Discharge Review Board (AFDRB), under its responsibility to examine the propriety and equity of an applicant’s discharge, is authorized to change the characterization of service and the narrative reason for discharge if such changes are warranted. If applicable, the board can also change the applicant’s RE code. In reviewing discharges, the board presumes regularity in the conduct of governmental affairs unless there is substantial credible evidence to rebut the presumption, to include evidence submitted by the applicant. The Board completed a thorough review of the circumstances that led to the discharge and the discharge process to determine if the discharge met the pertinent standards of equity and propriety.

The applicant contended the discharge was inequitable and improper. The applicant requested an upgrade to his narrative, character of service, and separation code. The applicant stated that he was diagnosed with stress fractures in his legs (ankles, shins, knees) and plantar fasciitis. At that time, his squadron commander determined he had these conditions before going to Basic Military Training (BMT) and did not disclose it. The applicant stated that he cleared Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) and was going through his last week of training when the leg pain occurred. The applicant highlighted that it has been well documented since his discharge that stress fractures and other musculoskeletal issues can occur to trainees during Air Force BMT.

The AFDRB reviewed the applicant’s entire service record and found no evidence of impropriety or inequity to warrant any changes to the discharge. The applicant’s record showed he had a pre-existing condition seven (7) months before he attended BMT. And IAW AFI 36-3208 which states Airmen are in entry level status during the first 180 days of continuous active military service and if a separation action is initiated during this time, they will receive an entry level separation without service characterization. Therefore, the applicant’s request to “upgrade” to “Honorable” could not be approved.

FINDING: The AFDRB voted unanimously to *deny* the applicant’s request to upgrade his discharge characterization to “Honorable,” to change the discharge narrative reason and to change the RE code.

CONCLUSION: After a thorough review of the available evidence, to include the Applicant’s issues, summary of service, service/medical record entries, and discharge process, the Board found the discharge was proper and equitable. Therefore, the awarded characterization of service shall remain “Entry Level Discharge,” the narrative reason for separation shall remain “Fraudulent Entry Into Military Service,” and the reentry code shall remain to “2C.”

The Air Force DRB (AFDRB) results were approved by the board president on 02 May 2023 . If desired, the applicant can request a list of the board members and their votes by writing to:

Air Force Review Boards Agency
Attn: Discharge Review Board
3351 Celmers Lane
Joint Base Andrews, NAF Washington, MD 20762-6602

Should the applicant wish to appeal this decision, the applicant must request a personal appearance before this Board before applying for relief to the Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR). In accordance with DAFI 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records*, all applicants before the AFBCMR must first exhaust available administrative avenues of relief before applying to the AFBCMR, otherwise their AFBCMR case will be administratively closed until such time that the applicant avails themselves of the available avenue of relief. Therefore, should the applicant wish to appeal this decision, they must first exercise their right to make a personal appearance before the AFDRB.

Instructions on how to appeal an AFDRB decision can be found at
<https://afrbportal.azurewebsites.us>

Attachment:
Examiner's Brief (Applicant Only)