



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS  
2 NAVY ANNEX  
WASHINGTON DC 20370-5100

JRE  
Docket No: 213-01  
23 October 2001

Dear [REDACTED]

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to the provisions of title 10 of the United States Code, section 1552.

A three-member panel of the Board for Correction of Naval Records, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 12 October 2001. Your allegations of error and injustice were reviewed in accordance with administrative regulations and procedures applicable to the proceedings of this Board. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of your application, together with all material submitted in support thereof, your naval record and applicable statutes, regulations and policies.

After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board found that the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice.

The Board found that you underwent a pre-enlistment physical examination on 15 June 1999. The only significant medical history you disclosed was a "murmer" [sic] at age 18 months. You advised the examining physician that your mother had told you that you had a heart murmur when you were an infant, but "not lately". You concealed your history of a cleft mitral valve and mitral insufficiency, which are disqualifying for military service; consequently, you were found physically qualified for enlistment. On or about 23 August 1999, a civilian physician determined that you might have a ventricular septal defect (VSD), and he recommended further testing with more sensitive equipment. Testing conducted on 27 June 2000 disclosed the presence of a thickened and redundant mitral valve leaflet and redundant chordae, cleft anterior leaflet with moderate mitral regurgitation, and a perimembranous VSD. You did not disclose this new information when your Navy physical examination was updated on 8 June 2000. You enlisted in the Navy on that date, and served until 19 July 2000, when you were discharged for failing to meet medical/physical procurement fitness standards because of the aforementioned heart defects. Discharge processing was prompted by your complaints of chest pain, and disclosure that a civilian

physician had advised you to avoid vigorous exercise because of your heart conditions. Tests conducted by a Navy cardiologist essentially confirmed the findings made on 27 June 2000, as described above.

Based on the foregoing, it was clear to the Board that you are not physically qualified for military service. As you have not demonstrated that your discharge was erroneous or unjust, the Board was unable to recommend any corrective action in your case. Accordingly, your application has been denied. The names and votes of the members of the panel will be furnished upon request.

It is regretted that the circumstances of your case are such that favorable action cannot be taken. You are entitled to have the Board reconsider its decision upon submission of new and material evidence or other matter not previously considered by the Board. In this regard, it is important to keep in mind that a presumption of regularity attaches to all official records. Consequently, when applying for a correction of an official naval record, the burden is on the applicant to demonstrate the existence of probable material error or injustice.

Sincerely,

W. DEAN PFEIFFER  
Executive Director