



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

CRS

Docket No: 8605-02

23 July 2003



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 16 July 2003. 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 enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve on 9 May 1987. You reported for initial active duty for training on 19 February 1988. On 4 August 1988 you were released from active duty and assigned to a Marine Corps Reserve unit. On 5 September 1991 you failed to report when your Reserve unit was ordered to active duty.

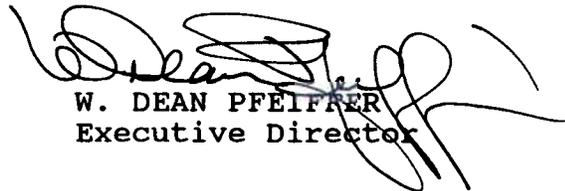
A general court-martial convened on 26 November 1991 and found you guilty of desertion from 24 January to 28 August 1991 and missing movement. The court sentenced you to confinement for 12 months, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, reduction in rate, and a dishonorable discharge. You received the dishonorable discharge on 21 March 1995.

In its review of your application the Board carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth and immaturity and the contention that your court-martial was improper. However, the Board concluded that these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge due to

the seriousness of the offenses. In this regard, the Board is prohibited by law from reviewing the findings of a court-martial and must restrict its review to determine if the sentence of the court-martial should be reduced as a matter of clemency. Based on the foregoing, the Board concluded that no change to the discharge is warranted. 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