



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

SJN
Docket No: 03914-07
18 January 2008

[REDACTED]

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 16 January 2008. 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 the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice.

You enlisted in the Navy on 1 October 1980 at age 19. On 7 May 1981, you began a period of unauthorized absence (UA) that lasted 403 days, ending on 14 June 1982. On 3 August 1982, you began another period of UA that lasted six days, ending on 9 August 1982. On 11 August 1982, you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for the six-day period of UA. However, on 13 August 1982, you were convicted by special court-martial (SPCM) of the 403 day period of UA. You were sentenced to a forfeiture of pay, a reduction in pay grade, and a bad conduct discharge (BCD). You received the BCD after appellate review was completed.

The Board, in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth and overall period of service. Nevertheless, the Board found that these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge given your record of NJP and conviction by SPCM for a UA period lasting over 13 months. 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