



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

SJN
Docket No: 03980-07
4 February 2008

[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 24 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.

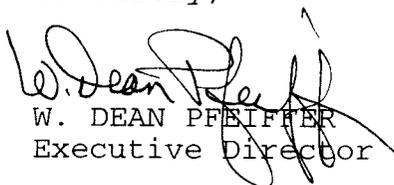
You enlisted in the Marine Corps on 1 February 1977 at age 19. During the period from 22 February 1978 to 29 November 1979 you received eight nonjudicial punishment's (NJP's) for five instances of disobedience, breaking restriction, possessing a smoking device that contained trace amounts of marijuana, a two-day period of unauthorized absence (UA), dereliction of duty, disrespect, and two instances of absence from your appointed place of duty.

You were notified of pending administrative separation action by reason of misconduct due to frequent involvement of a discreditable nature with military authorities. After being advised of your procedural rights, you waived the right to have your case heard by a board of officers. On 6 February 1980, the discharge authority directed discharge under other than honorable conditions by reason of misconduct. You were so discharged on 20 February 1980.

The Board, in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth and overall record of service. Nevertheless, the Board found that these factors were not sufficient to warrant any change in your discharge because of the eight NJP's, one of which was for possession of drug paraphernalia, and the fact that you were counseled and warned about the consequences of further misconduct. The Board also noted that you waived your right to have your case heard by a board of officers, your best chance for retention or a better characterization of service. 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