



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

TJR  
Docket No: 5315-08  
8 April 2009



This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to the provisions of Title 10, 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 7 April 2009. The names and votes of the members of the panel will be furnished upon request. 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 16 July 1979 at age 17 and served for nearly a year without disciplinary incident, but on 11 July 1980 you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for wrongful use of marijuana. The punishment imposed was a \$500 forfeiture of pay.

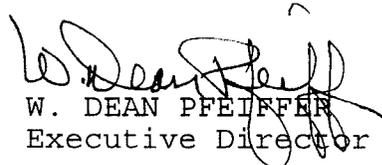
On 26 March 1982 you received your second NJP for wrongfully selling about 21.1 grams of marijuana and were awarded a \$551.40 forfeiture of pay, restriction and extra duty for 45 days, and reduction to paygrade E-1.

Subsequently, you were notified of pending administrative separation action by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse. At that time you waived your right to consult with legal counsel and to present your case to an administrative discharge board (ADB). On 31 March 1982 your commanding officer recommended an other than honorable discharge by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse. On 6 May 1982 the discharge authority approved this recommendation, and on 13 May 1982 you were so discharged.

The Board, in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth, post service conduct, desire to upgrade your discharge, and the passage of time. Nevertheless, the Board concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge because of the seriousness of your repetitive drug related misconduct which resulted in two NJPs. Further, you were given an opportunity to defend yourself, but waived your procedural right to present your case to an ADB. Finally, no discharge is automatically upgraded due solely to the passage of time or an individual's good post service conduct. Accordingly, your application has been denied.

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