



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

SJN  
Docket No: 08218-08  
10 July 2009

[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 8 July 2009. 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 and began a period of active duty on 10 September 1981 at age 18. On 2 March and 23 September 1983, you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for wrongful use of marijuana, 29 days of unauthorized absence, missing movement, and disobedience.

On 26 September 1983, administrative discharge action was initiated to separate you by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse. You waived your rights to consult counsel, submit a statement or have your case heard by an administrative discharge board (ADB). On 28 September 1983, you received a third NJP for wrongful use of marijuana.

On 19 October 1983, your commanding officer forwarded his recommendation that you be discharged under other than honorable conditions by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse. On 22 January 1984, the separation authority directed an other than honorable discharge by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse. You were so discharged on 30 January 1984.

The Board, in its review of your application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth, overall record of service, and the circumstances that you state, surrounded the reason for your discharge. Nevertheless, the Board concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge because of your misconduct that resulted in three NJP's, two of which were for drug use, and one of which was imposed after you were notified that you were being administratively separated due to drug use. Further, the Board noted that you waived the right to an ADB, your best opportunity 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