



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

BJG

Docket No: 8492-08

14 May 2009



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 14 May 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 health record, applicable statutes, regulations and policies.

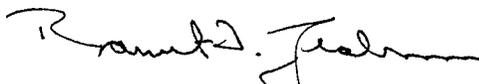
After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board found that the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice. The Board found that you entered active duty in the Marine Corps on 4 November 1986. On 11 April 1987, you received nonjudicial punishment for a two day period of unauthorized absence (UA). On 9 December 1989, you entered another period of UA, which was not terminated until you were apprehended on 28 June 1990. On 28 August 1990, you consulted with a qualified military counsel and requested an other than honorable (OTH) discharge for the good of the service (GOS) to avoid trial by court-martial for the UA totaling approximately

177 days. As a result of this action, you were spared the stigma of a court-martial conviction and the potential penalties of a punitive discharge and confinement at hard labor. Your GOS request was approved, and on 27 September 1990, you received the OTH discharge for the GOS to avoid trial by court-martial, and were assigned an RE-4 reenlistment code.

The Board, in its review of your entire record, carefully considered all potential mitigation, such as your youth and desire to continue your current career. However, the Board concluded that these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterizing your OTH discharge because of your commission of very serious misconduct. Furthermore, the Board believed that considerable clemency was extended to you when your request for discharge to avoid trial by court-martial was approved. The Board also concluded that you received the benefit of your bargain with the Marine Corps when your request for discharge was granted and you should not be permitted to change it now. In view of the above, 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,



ROBERT D. ZSALMAN  
Acting Executive Director