



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

JRE  
Docket No. 08646-08  
19 March 2009

[REDACTED]

[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 12 March 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 that the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice.

The Board found that you were discharged from the Marine Corps on 29 December 1989 by reason of physical disability due to the residual effects of a back injury rated 10% disabling by the Physical Evaluation Board. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) awarded you a disability rating of 20% for chronic low back pain effective 30 December 1989.

Although you completed almost eight years of active service, and attained the rank of staff sergeant, you did not qualify for disability retirement because your condition was not ratable at

or above 30% disabling as of 29 December 1989. Any increase in severity of your disability that may have occurred over the past nineteen years is a matter within the purview of the VA rather than the Department of the Navy, and would not provide a basis for granting your request for disability retirement. 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