



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

CRS
Docket No: 9444-08
19 December 2008

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

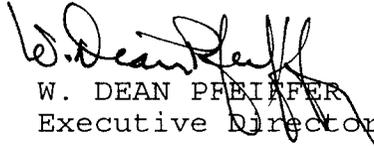
The Board found that you enlisted in the Navy on 7 September 1979. You received three nonjudicial punishments for offenses that included possession of marijuana on two occasions and possession of hashish. On 22 May 1982 your commanding officer recommended that you be separated with a discharge under other than honorable conditions by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse based on a positive urinalysis for marijuana. When informed of the recommendation, you elected to waive the right to present your case to an administrative discharge board. After review by the discharge authority, the recommendation for separation was approved and on 9 June 1982 you received a discharge under other than honorable conditions.

In its review of your application the Board carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth, overall service, and that you had symptoms of bipolar disorder that caused your misconduct. The Board concluded that those factors are insufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge, given your involvement with unlawful drugs. Further, there is no evidence in the record, and you have provided none, to show that you suffered from bipolar disorder while in the Navy. In addition, even if you did have symptoms of bipolar disorder

during your period of active duty, there is no indication that you did not know right from wrong or were unable to adhere to the right. 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