



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

SJN
Docket No: 03318-08
27 February 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 24 February 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.

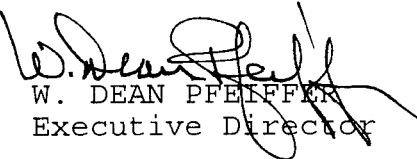
You enlisted in the Navy and began a period of active duty on 14 August 1995 at age 18. On 8 May 1996, you were convicted by summary court-martial (SCM) of a brief period of unauthorized absence (UA), disrespect, making a false official statement, and feigning a mental illness to avoid duty. You were sentenced to confinement, a forfeiture of pay, and a reduction in paygrade.

On 4 June 1996, administrative discharge action was initiated by reason of misconduct due to commission of a serious offense. You waived your rights to consult counsel, submit a statement or have your case heard by an administrative discharge board (ADB). On 5 June 1996, your commanding officer forwarded his recommendation that you be discharged under other than honorable conditions by reason of misconduct. He stated, in part, that you were an administrative and disciplinary burden to the command. On 22 July 1996 the separation authority directed an other than honorable discharge by reason of misconduct. On 24 July 1996 you were so discharged.

The Board, in its review of your application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth and overall record of service. Nevertheless, the Board concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant removing the period of UA that occurred on 4 May 1996 from your official record because of the SCM you received on 8 May 1996. Further, you waived the right to an ADB, your best chance 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