



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

JRE
Docket No. 01287-09
22 March 2010

[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 11 March 2010. 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. In this regard, the Board was not persuaded that you were suffering from Lyme disease when released from active duty in 1977 or when discharged from the Marine Corps on 25 September 1984, or that you were unfit to reasonably perform the duties of your rank by reason of physical disability that was incurred in or aggravated by your naval service. The fact that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) awarded you a disability rating Lyme disease effective 8 March 2006 is not probative of the existence of error or injustice in your naval record, because the VA made that award without regard to the issue of your fitness for duty more than twenty years earlier. In addition, the Board was unable to accept the unsupported

determination of VA rating officials that the Lyme disease was "as least as likely as not" the result of an undiagnosed illness from which you suffered in 1977.

In view of the foregoing, 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