



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

TJR
Docket No: 1710-09
11 January 2010

[REDACTED]

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to the provisions of Title 10, 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 5 January 2010. The names and votes of the members of the panel will be furnished upon request. 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 on 26 January 1984 at age 23 and began a period of active duty on 16 February 1984. You served without disciplinary incident until 11 January 1985, when you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for missing the movement of your ship and a 39 day period of unauthorized absence (UA). Shortly thereafter, on 31 January 1985, you received NJP for wrongful use of marijuana.

On 10 January 1986 you received your third NJP for wrongful use of marijuana, misbehavior as a sentinel, and disobedience. The punishment imposed was a \$716 forfeiture of pay and confinement on bread and water for three days. Subsequently, you were notified of pending administrative separation action by reason of misconduct due to frequent involvement of a discreditable nature with military authorities and a pattern of misconduct. At that time you waived your right to consult with legal counsel and to present your case to an administrative discharge board (ADB). On 23 January 1986 your commanding officer recommended discharge under other than honorable conditions by reason of misconduct due

to frequent involvement of a discreditable nature with military authorities and a pattern of misconduct. On 19 February 1986 the discharge authority approved this recommendation and directed your commanding officer to issue you an other than honorable discharge by reason of misconduct, and on 21 February 1986, you were so discharged.

The Board, in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth, post service conduct, and desire to upgrade your discharge. It also considered your assertion that had you been afforded the opportunity to receive alcohol and drug abuse rehabilitation you could have continued to serve in the Navy. Nevertheless, the Board concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge because of the seriousness of your repetitive misconduct which resulted in three NJPs and included drug abuse. Further, you were given an opportunity to defend yourself but waived the procedural right to present your case to an ADB. Accordingly, your application has been denied.

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