



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

BAN  
Docket No: 1861-09  
7 December 2009

[REDACTED]

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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 2 December 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 Marine Corps on 31 July 1980, and served without disciplinary incident until 19 January 1981, when you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for possession of a controlled substance (marijuana). Shortly thereafter, you received the following disciplinary actions: on 26 August 1981, you received an NJP for unauthorized absence; on 4 October 1981, you received NJP for being absent from your appointed place of duty; on 7 July 1982, you were convicted at a summary court-martial; and on 8 October 1982, you were convicted at a special court-martial (SPCM) for two specifications of destruction of personal property. Your sentence at the SPCM included a bad conduct discharge (BCD). After appellate review, on 30 March 1984, you were separated from the naval service with a BCD and an RE-4 reenlistment code.

The Board, in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth and belief that enough time has elapsed to warrant upgrading your discharge. Nevertheless, the Board concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge because of the seriousness of your misconduct. Finally, there is no provision of law or in Navy regulations that allows for recharacterization of service due solely to the passage of time. 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