



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

SJN
Docket No: 02546-09
22 February 2010

[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 17 February 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.

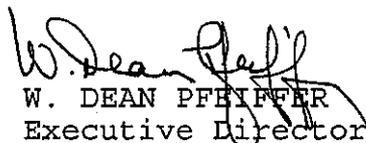
After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board found the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice.

You enlisted in the Marine Corps and began a period of active duty on 1 April 1982 at age 18. During the period from 31 July 1984 to 7 November 1985, you received four nonjudicial punishments (NJP's) for three periods of unauthorized absence (UA) totaling 14 days, wrongful use of marijuana, and incapacitation for the proper performance of duty. Additionally, you were counseled and warned that further misconduct could result in administrative discharge action. On 7 March 1986, you were convicted by special court-martial (SPCM) of two periods of UA totaling 28 days. You were sentenced to confinement and a forfeiture of pay. On 19 May 1986, administrative discharge action was initiated by reason of misconduct due to a pattern of misconduct. You waived your rights to consult counsel, submit a statement or have your case heard by an administrative discharge board (ADB). Your commanding officer forwarded his recommendation that you be discharged under other than honorable conditions by reason of misconduct. On 23 May 1986, the discharge authority directed an other than honorable discharge by reason of misconduct. On 30 May 1986 you were so discharged.

The Board, in its review of your application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth, overall record of service, post service medical issues, and letter from the Disabled American Veterans office. Nevertheless, the Board found that these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge given your record of four NJP's, SPCM conviction, and the fact that you were counseled and warned of the consequences of further misconduct. Finally, the Board noted that you waived the right to an ADB, your best opportunity 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