



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

TAL
Docket No: 3161-09
8 March 2010

From: Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records
To: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF [REDACTED]

Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C. 1552

Encl: (1) DD Form 149 with attachments
(2) Case summary
(3) Subject's naval record

1. Pursuant to the provisions of reference (a), Petitioner, a former enlisted member of the Marine Corps, filed enclosure (1) with this Board requesting that the general characterization of his discharge on 24 March 1972 be changed.

2. The Board, consisting of Mr. [REDACTED] Mr. [REDACTED] and Ms. [REDACTED], reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 18 February 2010 and, pursuant to its regulations, determined that the corrective action indicated below should be taken on the available evidence of record. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of the enclosures, naval records, and applicable statutes, regulations and policies.

3. The Board, having reviewed all the facts of record pertaining to Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice finds as follows:

a. Before applying to this Board, Petitioner exhausted all administrative remedies available under existing law and regulations within the Department of the Navy.

b. Although it appears that enclosure (1) was not filed in a timely manner, it is in the interest of justice to waive the statute of limitations and review the application on its merits.

c. Petitioner enlisted in the Marine Corps and began a period of active duty on 26 June 1969 at age 20. On 10 February 1971 he was the subject of a psychiatric evaluation and diagnosed with an emotionally unstable personality. It was recommended that discharge would be the best course of action due to his inability to function well under the pressures of the service. On 2

December 1971 a second psychiatric evaluation revealed no significant changes and agreed with the previous diagnosis and recommendation for separation. Subsequently, he was processed for an administrative separation by reason of unsuitability due to character and behavior disorders. On 21 March 1972 the discharge authority directed separation with a characterization of service warranted by the service record. On 24 March 1972 he was issued a general discharge by reason of unsuitability due to character and behavior disorders. At the time of his discharge he had a conduct average of 4.2 which was sufficiently high for a fully honorable characterization of service.

CONCLUSION:

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record, the Board concludes that Petitioner's request warrants favorable action. The Board's finding is based on his length of service and periodic conduct marks. The Board notes that his conduct average of 4.2 was sufficiently high to warrant a fully honorable characterization of service. Based on the foregoing the Board concludes that no useful purpose is served by continuing to characterize his service as having been under honorable conditions, and recharacterization to a fully honorable discharge is appropriate.

In view of the foregoing, the Board finds the existence of an injustice warranting the following corrective action.

RECOMMENDATION:

a. That Petitioner's naval record is corrected to show that he was honorably discharged on 24 March 1972 vice being issued the general discharge under honorable conditions on the same day.

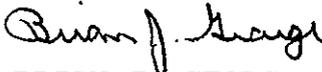
b. That any material or entries inconsistent with or relating to the Board's recommendation be corrected, removed, or completely expunged from Petitioner's record and that no such entries or material be added to the record in the future.

c. That any material directed to be removed from Petitioner's naval record be returned to the Board, together with a copy of this Report of Proceedings, for retention in a confidential file maintained for such purpose, with no cross reference being made a part of Petitioner's naval record.

4. Pursuant to Section 6(c) of the revised Procedures of the Board for Correction of Naval Records (32 Code of Federal

Regulations, Section 723.6(c)) it is certified that a quorum was presented at the Board's review and deliberations, and that the foregoing is a true and complete record of the Board's proceedings in the above entitled matter.

ROBERT D. ZSALMAN
Recorder


BRIAN J. GEORGE
Acting Recorder

5. Pursuant to the delegation of authority set out in Section 6(e) of the revised Procedures of the Board for correction of Naval Records (32 Code of Federal Regulation, Section 723.6(e)) and having assured compliance with its provisions, it is hereby announced that the foregoing corrective action, taken under the authority of reference (a), has been approved by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.


W. DEAN PFEIFFER
Executive Director