



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

CRS
Docket No: 4099-09
8 June 2009

[REDACTED]

Dear [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 3 June 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 that the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice.

The Board found that you enlisted in the Navy on 11 May 1960. You received five nonjudicial punishments and were convicted by a summary court-martial for offenses that included unauthorized absences, disrespect, willful disobedience of a lawful order, harassing brig prisoners, possession of a false identification card, and failure to obey a lawful order. On 15 August 1961 you made a written statement in which you admitted to committing homosexual acts on base and openly in public view.

On 15 August 2001 your commanding officer recommended that you be separated with an undesirable discharge by reason of unfitness due to homosexual acts. After review by the discharge authority the recommendation for discharge was approved and you received an undesirable discharge on 15 September 1961.

The Board carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth, overall service record, and the contention that the rules have changed for homosexuals. The Board concluded that those factors were insufficient to warrant recharacterization of your service. In this regard, the Board noted that current policy of the Department of Defense provides that the characterization of service for individuals discharged for homosexuality will not normally be under other than honorable

conditions; however, such a characterization is authorized for individuals who commit homosexual acts on a military base and openly in public view, as you did. 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