



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

JRE
Docket No. 05518-09
14 August 2009



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.

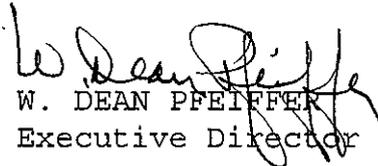
A three-member panel of the Board for Correction of Naval Records, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 6 August 2009. Your allegations of error and injustice were reviewed in accordance with administrative regulations and procedures applicable to the proceedings of this Board. 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. In addition, the Board considered the findings made in your case by the Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC) Board dated dated 20 April 2009, a copy of which is attached.

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. In this connection, the Board substantially concurred with the findings of the CRSC Board. The Board was not persuaded that any of the disabilities rated by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) directly resulted from a combat-related activity, the available records do not conclusively establish that you were engaged in duties simulating war when you first experience lower back pain, or that the back pain was caused by an acute injury which ultimately resulted in your spinal

disability, as opposed to being the first manifestation of a degenerative process in your spine. 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

Enclosure