



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

TAL
Docket No: 6475-09
8 April 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 31 March 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 Navy and began a period of active duty on 26 November 2002 at age 18. On 9 December 2002 you were the subject of a mental health evaluation. You were referred by the Chaplain, for disclosing thoughts of hurting yourself or others. During your evaluation it was stated, in part, that you drank alcoholic beverages except hard liquor. You stated that you started drinking a six pack of beer a week at age 16, then increased from six to eight beers a day for the previous six months. You were subsequently diagnosed as alcohol dependent and with borderline personality disorder. On 11 December 2002, you were notified of pending administrative separation action due to erroneous enlistment as evidenced by alcohol dependence. On 12 December 2002, your commanding officer directed that you be discharged with an entry level separation. You were so discharged on 17 December 2002. At that time you were assigned an RE-4 reenlistment code.

The Board, in its review of your application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth and overall record of service. Nevertheless, the Board found that

these factors were not sufficient to warrant a change in your narrative reason for separation or reenlistment code given your diagnosis of alcohol dependence. An RE-4 reenlistment code is routinely assigned under such circumstances. 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