



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

TAL  
Docket No: 7422-09  
4 June 2010

[REDACTED]

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This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to the provisions of title 10, 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 2 June 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 Reserve and began a period of active duty on 20 December 1987 at age 18. On 12 March 1989, you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for disrespect toward and willfully disobeying a superior officer. On 15 October 1989, you received NJP for wrongful use of cocaine. On 4 February 1990, you were notified of pending administrative separation action by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse. You elected to consult with legal counsel and subsequently requested an administrative discharge board (ADB). On 12 June 1990, an ADB recommended by majority vote that you be separated with a general discharge for misconduct (drug abuse). Subsequently, your commanding officer concurred with the ADB and forwarded your case to the discharge authority for review. On 5 September 1990, the separation authority directed a general discharge by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse. On 12 September 1990 you were so discharged.

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 recharacterization

of your discharge given the seriousness of your misconduct. The Board also believed that you were fortunate to receive a general discharge since a characterization under other than honorable conditions is often directed when a Marine is separated for misconduct. Finally, no discharge is upgraded merely because of the passage of time. 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