



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

TAL
Docket No: 9989-09
25 June 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 23 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.

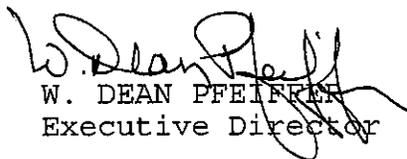
You enlisted in the Navy and began a period of active duty on 16 June 1985 at age 20. You received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) on two occasions and were convicted by a special court-martial (SPCM) for drunken driving, destruction of government property, disorderly conduct, missing ship's movement and unauthorized absence (UA) from your unit for a period of 56 days. You were counseled regarding your misconduct and warned that further offenses could result in administrative separation. On 15 May 1989, you were notified of pending administrative discharge processing with an other than honorable (OTH) discharge due to misconduct. You waived all your procedural rights, including your right to an administrative discharge board (ADB). On 10 July 1989, you received the OTH discharge for misconduct.

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 that resulted in two NJPs and a SPCM. The Board noted that you waived the right to an ADB, your best chance for retention or a better

characterization of service. Finally, concerning your assertion of alcoholism, alcohol abuse is not an excuse for misconduct, and disciplinary action and administrative separation are appropriate after alcohol related offenses. 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