



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

TAL  
Docket No: 10658-09  
23 July 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 14 July 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.

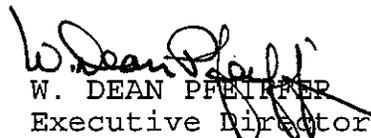
You enlisted in the Navy and began a period of active duty on 13 May 1986 at age 20. On 31 March 1988, you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for two instances of unauthorized absence (UA) from your unit. On 25 June 1988, you received NJP for three instances of UA from your unit and disobeying a lawful written order. On 22 September 1988, you received NJP for UA from your unit for a period of six days, disobeying a lawful written regulation and wrongful use of a controlled substance (cocaine). On 7 April 1989, you were convicted by summary court-martial (SCM) for UA from your unit for a period of 41 days, missing ship's movement, wrongful use of cocaine, and five instances of failure to go to your appointed place of duty. After each NJP you were counseled regarding your misconduct and warned that further offenses could result in administrative separation. On 15 April 1989, you were notified that administrative discharge action was initiated to separate you by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse and misconduct due to a pattern of misconduct. You elected to consult with legal counsel and subsequently requested an administrative discharge board

(ADB). On 15 April 1989, an ADB unanimously found that you had committed misconduct and recommended that you be discharged under other than honorable (OTH) conditions due to drug abuse. On 20 July 1989, the separation authority directed an OTH discharge by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse. On 2 August 1989 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 concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge given the seriousness of your misconduct that resulted in three NJPs, one SCM and periods of UA totaling 47 days. 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