



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

TAL  
Docket No: 12218-09  
20 August 2010

[REDACTED]

Dear [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 11 August 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.

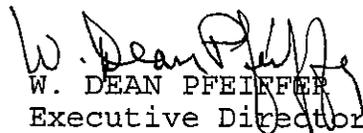
After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board found the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice.

You enlisted in the Navy and began a period of active duty on 21 February 1984 at age 22. On 3 July 1985, you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for wrongful use of marijuana. You were counseled regarding your misconduct and warned that further offenses could result in administrative separation. On 26 September 1985, your commanding officer was notified that you tested positive for marijuana during a unit urinalysis sweep. On 9 October 1985, you were notified of pending administrative discharge processing with an other than honorable (OTH) discharge due to misconduct (drug abuse). You waived all of your procedural rights, including your right to an administrative discharge board (ADB). On 21 December 1985, the separation authority directed an OTH discharge by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse. On 23 December 1985, you began a 16 day period of unauthorized absence (UA) from your unit until you surrendered on 7 January 1986. On 15 January 1986, you were again UA from your unit for a period of 174 days until you surrendered on 9 July 1986. On 10 July 1986 you received the OTH discharge due to misconduct (drug abuse), and were assigned an RE-4 (not recommended for retention) 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 concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge given the seriousness of your misconduct that included drug abuse and UA from your unit for over six months. Finally, the Board found that you waived the right to an ADB, your best opportunity for retention or a better characterization of service. 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