



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

BAN  
Docket No: 12619-09  
3 September 2010

[REDACTED]

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 26 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.

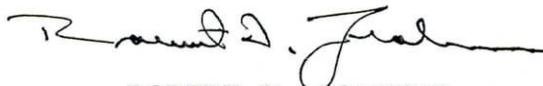
You enlisted in the Navy on 17 June 1986, and served without disciplinary incident until 1 December 1988, when you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for unauthorized absence (UA) and missing ship's movement. Shortly thereafter, on 18 January 1989, you received another NJP for three specifications of UA. On 4 February 1989, you received NJP for the use of a controlled substance (cocaine). Furthermore, you received a medical evaluation from a mental health professional and were deemed not dependent on drugs. Therefore, you were recommended for separation due to drug abuse. You waived all of your procedural rights, to include your right to an administrative discharge board (ADB). The separation authority approved the recommendation for an other than honorable (OTH) discharge. Therefore, on 24 February 1989, you were separated with an OTH

discharge and an RE-4 reenlistment code.

The Board, in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth and the passage of time. Nevertheless, the Board concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant changing the characterization of your discharge due to drug abuse. Furthermore, the Board found you waived your right to an ADB, your best opportunity for retention or a better characterization of service. Finally, there is no provision of law or in regulations that allow for recharacterization of service due solely to 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,



ROBERT D. ZSALMAN  
Acting Executive Director