



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

TJR
Docket No: 1616-10
18 November 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 16 November 2010. The names and votes of the members of the panel will be furnished upon request. 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 14 January 1981 at age 18 and served without disciplinary incident until 10 July 1982, when you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for a three day period of unauthorized absence (UA). About three months later, on 14 October 1982, you received NJP for failure to go to your appointed place of duty and wrongful use of marijuana.

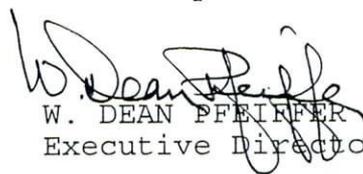
On 31 March 1983 you received your third NJP for three periods of absence from your appointed place of duty, a one day period of UA, failure to obey a lawful order, and two specifications of sleeping on watch. Shortly thereafter, during a medical evaluation on 6 May 1983, you admitted to using marijuana on a daily basis during the period from December 1982 to February 1983, and that you had no desire to quit smoking marijuana. The record also revealed numerous positive urine samples for marijuana.

Subsequently, you were processed for an administrative separation by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse, a pattern of misconduct, and frequent involvement of a discreditable nature with military authorities. After waiving your procedural rights, the discharge authority directed your commanding officer to issue you an other than honorable discharge by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse and frequent involvement of a discreditable nature with military authorities as evidenced by three NJPs and repeated counselling. On 3 June 1983 you were so discharged.

The Board, in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth and desire to upgrade your discharge. It also considered your letter of explanation regarding your period of service. Nevertheless, the Board concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge because of the seriousness of your misconduct which resulted in three NJPs, repeated counselling, and included drug abuse. Further, you were given an opportunity to defend yourself, but waived your procedural right to present your case to an administrative discharge board. Accordingly, your application has been denied.

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