



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

TJR
Docket No: 6078-10
24 March 2011

[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 22 March 2011. 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 Marine Corps on 25 February 1987 at age 20 and began a period of active duty on 16 March 1987. You served without disciplinary incident until 2 October 1988, when you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for wrongful use of cocaine and marijuana. The punishment imposed was reduction to paygrade E-1, and an \$88 forfeiture of pay. You were also counselled and warned that further misconduct would result in an administrative separation. Nonetheless, on 4 December 1988, a drug laboratory report noted that your urine sample had tested positive for marijuana. You were again counselled regarding your drug abuse.

On 5 January 1989 you were notified of pending administrative separation action by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse. At that time you waived your right to consult with legal counsel and to present your case to an administrative discharge board (ADB). On 6 January 1989 your commanding officer recommended discharge under other than honorable conditions by reason of misconduct due

to drug abuse. Subsequently, the discharge authority approved this recommendation and directed separation under other than honorable conditions by reason of misconduct and on 27 February 1989 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 assertion that you were not afforded treatment for your drug and alcohol abuse. Nevertheless, the Board concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge because of your repetitive drug-related misconduct. Further, you were given an opportunity to defend your actions, but waived your procedural right to present your case to an ADB. 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