



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

TAL
Docket No: 6287-10
24 March 2011

[REDACTED]

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to the provisions of title 10 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 17 March 2011. 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 and began a period of active duty on 29 March 1972 at age 18. On 2 October through 31 October 1972, you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) on three occasions for two instances of unauthorized absence (UA) from your unit for periods totaling nine days, failure to go to your appointed place of duty, insubordinate conduct toward a superior noncommissioned officer, two instances of failure to obey a lawful order, breaking restriction, carrying a concealed weapon and sleeping on post. On 19 March 1973, you were convicted by special court-martial (SPCM) of UA from your unit for a period of 39 days. The sentence imposed was confinement for one month and a forfeiture of pay. On 19 October 1973, you were again convicted by SPCM of UA from your unit for a period of 35 days. The sentence imposed was confinement for 35 days and a forfeiture of pay. On 13 December 1973, you received NJP for wrongful possession of lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) and marijuana. On 3 January 1974, you were counseled regarding your misconduct and warned that further offenses could result in administrative separation. On 14 January 1974, you received NJP for failure to go to your appointed place of duty. On 15 February 1974, you received NJP for two instances of failure

to go to your appointed place of duty. On 23 February 1974, you again received NJP for failure to obey a lawful general order by use and possession of marijuana on board Camp Pendleton, California. You were notified of pending administrative discharge processing with an other than honorable (OTH) discharge due to misconduct. You waived all of your procedural rights, including your right to an administrative discharge aboard (ADB). On 13 September 1974, you received the OTH discharge for misconduct (frequent involvement).

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 found that these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge given the seriousness of your misconduct that resulted in seven NJPs, two SPCMs and periods of UA that totaled over two months. Finally, the Board noted that you waived the right to an ADB, your best chance 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