



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

TAL  
Docket No: 159-11  
30 September 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 28 September 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 Navy and began a period of active duty on 23 August 1994 at age 19. On 7 March 1996, you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for two instances of wrongful use and possession of marijuana. Based on the information currently contained in your record it appears that there were charges pending against you in Florida for one count each of wrongful possession of more than 20 grams of marijuana, wrongful possession of drug paraphernalia and wrongful possession of marijuana with intent to deliver. 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 board (ADB). On 14 April 1996, the separation authority approved the OTH discharge for misconduct. On 9 May 1996 you were so discharged.

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 an NJP for drug use. The Board noted that you waived the right to an ADB, your best chance for retention or a better characterization of service. Finally, members of the armed services who are convicted by civil authorities may be discharged for misconduct. 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