



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS  
701 S. COURTHOUSE ROAD, SUITE 1001  
ARLINGTON, VA 22204-2490

TAL  
Docket No: 4083-11  
19 January 2012



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 12 January 2012. 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 28 April 1972 at age 17. On 17 May 1974, you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for failure to go to your appointed place of duty, willfully disobeying a lawful order from a superior officer, insubordinate conduct toward a superior noncommissioned officer and two instances of failure to obey a lawful general regulation. On 21 May 1974, you were notified of pending administrative discharge processing with a general discharge due to unfitness. You waived all of your procedural rights, including your right to an administrative discharge board (ADB). On 7 June 1974, you were discharged with a general characterization of service.

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 concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge given the seriousness of your misconduct. The Board noted that you waived the right to an ADB, your best chance for retention or a better characterization of service. The Board believed you were fortunate to receive a general characterization

of service, because Sailors who have committed misconduct such as yours often times receive other than honorable discharges. Finally, there is no provision of law or in Navy regulations that allows 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,

  
W. DEAN PFEIFFER  
Executive Director