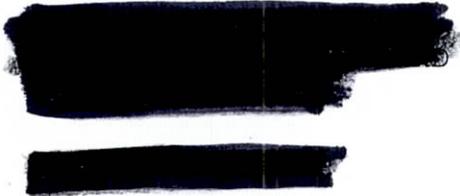




DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS  
701 S. COURTHOUSE ROAD, SUITE 1001  
ARLINGTON, VA 22204-2490

REC  
Docket No: 00148-12  
26 September 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 26 September 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 on 17 October 1996, at age 20. During your in-processing paperwork you signed and acknowledged documentation concerning the Navy's Zero Tolerance policy on drug and alcohol abuse. On 3 April 1997, you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for wrongful use of marijuana. Administrative separation action was initiated by reason of misconduct. You apparently waived your rights to consult counsel, submit a statement or have your case heard by an administrative discharge board (ADB). Your commanding officer forwarded his recommendation that you be discharged under other than honorable (OTH) conditions by reason of misconduct. The discharge authority directed an OTH discharge by reason of misconduct. On 30 May 1997, you received the OTH discharge due to misconduct. At that time you were assigned an RE-4 reentry code.

The Board, in its review of your application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth. Nevertheless, the Board found that these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge, given your record of one NJP for misconduct. The Board noted that you waived your right to an ADB, your best opportunity for retention or a more favorable 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