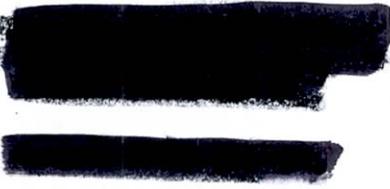




DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS
701 S. COURTHOUSE ROAD, SUITE 1001
ARLINGTON, VA 22204-2490

SJN
Docket No: 01062-12
3 December 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 29 November 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.

On 5 March 1987, you reenlisted in the Navy after serving over two years of honorable service. The Board found that you had been previously briefed on the Navy's policy on drug and alcohol abuse. On 20 August 1987, you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for wrongful use of cocaine. Subsequently, administrative discharge action was initiated by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse. You waived your rights to consult counsel, submit a statement or have your case heard by an administrative discharge board (ADB). Your case was forwarded recommending that you be discharged under other than honorable (OTH) conditions by reason of misconduct. On 18 September 1987, the separation authority concurred and directed an OTH discharge by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse. You were so discharged on 21 September 1987. At that time you were assigned an RE-4 reenlistment code.

The Board, in its review of your application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your prior honorable service, post service accomplishments, character letters, and desire to change the reason for your discharge and RE-4 reenlistment code. Nevertheless, the Board concluded these

factors were not sufficient to warrant changing the reason for your discharge, characterization of your discharge, or reenlistment code, given the NJP for drug abuse and the fact that you were briefed on the Navy's policy on drug and alcohol abuse during your first period of service. The Board noted that you waived the right to an ADB, your best chance for retention or a better characterization of service. Finally, an RE-4 reenlistment code must be assigned to all Sailors discharged due to 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,



BRIAN J. GEORGE
Head, Discharge Section