



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

TAL
Docket No: 2712-13
31 January 2014

[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 29 January 2014. 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.

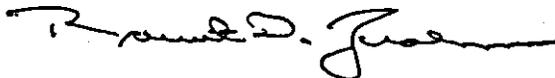
After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board found the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice.

You enlisted in the Navy and began a period of active duty on 15 May 1984 at age 19. On 12 February 1986, you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for wrongful use of marijuana. On 24 July 1986, you were notified that administrative discharge action was initiated to separate you by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse. You elected to consult with legal counsel and subsequently requested an administrative discharge board (ADB). On 11 August 1986, an ADB unanimously found that you had committed misconduct and recommended that you be retained. On 24 October 1986, your commanding officer disagreed with the ADB and forwarded a recommendation that you be discharged under other than honorable conditions. On 5 Jan 1987, the Secretary of the Navy directed that you would be discharged with a general characterization. On 18 March 1987 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 concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge given the seriousness of your misconduct. Finally, the Board believed that you were fortunate to receive a general discharge since a separation under other than honorable conditions is often directed when a Sailor is separated 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,



ROBERT D. ZSALMAN
Acting Executive Director