



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

TAL
Docket No: 6759-13
29 July 2014



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 16 July 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.

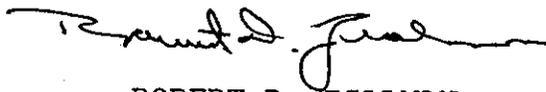
After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board found the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice.

You enlisted in the Marine Corps and began a period of active duty on 27 October 1986 at age 26. On 16 October 1987, you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for wrongful use of cocaine and marijuana. You were placed in the Urinary Surveillance Program. On 20 January 1988, you again tested positive for wrongful use of cocaine. On 11 March 1988, you were notified of pending administrative discharge processing with an other than honorable (OTH) discharge due to misconduct (drug abuse). You elected to consult with legal counsel and subsequently requested an administrative discharge board (ADB). An ADB found that you had committed misconduct and recommended that you be discharged under OTH conditions due to misconduct (drug abuse). On 26 April 1988, the separation authority directed an OTH discharge by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse. On 6 May 1988 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 that resulted in an NJP and continued drug use. Finally, there is no provision of law or in Marine Corps regulations that allows for recharacterization of service due solely to the passage of time or an individual's good behavior after discharge. 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