



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

SJN
Docket No: 8502-14
3 August 2015

Dear :

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.

Although your application was not filed in a timely manner, the Board found it in the interest of justice to waive the statute of limitations and consider your application on its merits. A three-member panel of the Board for Correction of Naval Records, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 27 July 2015. The names and votes of the members of the panel will be furnished upon request. 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 17 July 1987, you reenlisted in the Navy after serving over three years of satisfactory service. On 19 October 1987, you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for unauthorized absence (UA). On 25 May 1989, you were convicted by special court-martial (SPCM) of 508 days of UA. You were sentenced to confinement, a forfeiture of pay, a reduction in paygrade, and a bad conduct discharge. After appellate review was completed, you received a BCD on 24 August 1989.

The Board, in its review of your record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your record of service and desire to upgrade your discharge. Nevertheless, the Board concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge given the seriousness of your misconduct that resulted in your NJP, and SPCM conviction based on a period of UA that lasted over 16 months. Accordingly, your application has been denied.

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 within one year from the date of the Board's decision. New evidence is evidence not previously considered by the Board prior to making its decision in your case. 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,

5 U.S.C. 552(b) (6)

ROBERT J. O'NEILL
Executive Director