



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

SJN
Docket No: 4682-14
4 June 2015

[REDACTED]

Dear [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.

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 19 May 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.

You enlisted in the Marine Corps and began a period of active duty on 1 February 1994. During the period from 8 March 1996 to 31 January 1997, you received two nonjudicial punishments (NJPs) and were convicted by summary court-martial (SCM) of wrongful use of marijuana. Additionally, you were counseled and warned on two occasions after your first NJP that further misconduct could result in administrative discharge action. Subsequently, administrative discharge action was initiated by reason of misconduct due to wrongful drug use. After being afforded all of your procedural rights, your case was forwarded to the separation authority recommending that you receive an other than honorable (OTH) discharge by reason of misconduct. The separation authority concurred and you received an OTH discharge on 4 April 1997.

The Board, in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your record of service, medical issues, and desire to change your discharge. Nevertheless, the Board concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant changing your characterization of service given your two NJP's, and SCM conviction of wrongful drug use. 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. J. O'Neill", written in a cursive style.

ROBERT J. O'NEILL
Executive Director