



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

TAL

Docket No: 646-14
15 January 2015

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 14 January 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 Navy and began a period of active duty on 14 September 1995. You served for nearly six months without disciplinary incident, but during the period of 3 March 1996 to 13 February 1997, you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) on four occasions. Your offenses were making a false official statement, obtaining services under false pretenses, breaking restriction, unauthorized absence, and failure to obey written regulations.

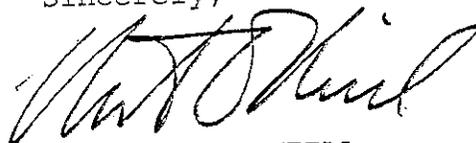
Subsequently, you were notified of pending administrative separation by reason of misconduct due to a pattern of misconduct at which time you waived your procedural rights to consult with legal counsel and to present your case to an administrative discharge board (ABD). Your commanding officer recommended discharge under other than honorable conditions by reason of misconduct due to a pattern of misconduct. The discharge

authority approved this recommendation and directed separation under other than honorable conditions by reason of misconduct, and on 30 May 1997, you were so discharged.

The Board, in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your desire to upgrade your discharge and assertion that you were later diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) which resulted from your service in Iraq. Nevertheless, the Board found that these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge given the seriousness of your misconduct. Regarding your assertion of PTSD and service in Iraq, the Board could not find evidence to support this assertion. Finally, the Board noted that you waived the right to an ADB, your best opportunity for retention or a better characterization of service. 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,



ROBERT J. O'NEILL
Executive Director