

## DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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

Docket No: 3269-16



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 21 March 2017. 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.

You enlisted in the Navy and began a period of active duty on 14 April 1987. During the period from 11 September 1987 to 30 January 1988, you received two nonjudicial punishments (NJP) for the following offences: wrongful use of another Sailor's military ID card and wrongful use of cocaine. Subsequently, you were notified of pending administrative separation action by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse. After you waived your procedural rights, your Commanding Officer recommended discharge under other than honorable (OTH) conditions by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse. The discharge authority approved this recommendation and directed separation under other than honorable conditions by reason of misconduct. On 8 March 1988, you were discharged.

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. The Board carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your desire to upgrade your discharge and contention that you are now married with a family and no longer have a drug problem. The Board concluded that your misconduct, as evidenced by two NJPs and a positive urinalyses, outweighed your desire to upgrade your discharge. The Board was not persuaded by the contention that you are now married with a family and no longer have a drug problem. The Board noted that a Sailor's service is characterized at the time of discharge based on

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performance during the current enlistment. The Board noted, although commendable, having a family and no longer having a drug problem does not alter your conduct while enlisted in the Navy or the basis for your discharge. Accordingly, your application has been denied.

It is regretted that the circumstances of your case are such that favorable action cannot be taken at this time. You are entitled to have the Board reconsider its decision upon the submission of new and material evidence. New evidence is evidence 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,

**Executive Director**