

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

> Docket No: 2155-21 Ref: Signature Date



Dear

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to Section 1552 of Title 10, United States Code. After careful and conscientious consideration of relevant portions of your naval record and your application, the Board for Correction of Naval Records (Board) found the evidence submitted insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice. Consequently, your application has been denied.

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 threemember panel of the Board, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 21 March 2021. The names and votes of the panel members 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 the Board. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of your application together with all material submitted in support thereof, relevant portions of your naval record, and applicable statutes, regulations, and policies, to include the 25 July 2018 guidance from the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness regarding equity, injustice or clemency determinations (Wilkie Memo).

You enlisted in the Navy began a period of active service on 15 September 1998. On 3 August 1999, you were counseled regarding your deficiencies in performance. From the period beginning on 4 November 1999 to 11 March 2000 you received non-judicial punishment (NJP) on three occasions for the following offenses: two specifications of misbehavior of a lookout, and seven specifications of unauthorized absence (UA). On 14 March 2000, you were counseled regarding your deficiencies. On 6 April 2000, you received your fourth NJP for seven specifications of UA and failure to obey a lawful order. As a result of the foregoing, 16 June 2000, you were discharged with an other than honorable (OTH) characterization of service by reason of misconduct-commission of a serious offense.

The Board carefully considered all potentially mitigating factors to determine whether the interests of justice warrant relief in your case in accordance with the Wilkie Memo. These included, but were not limited to, your desire to upgrade your discharge and contention you were

asked to be discharged voluntarily, and not with an other than honorable (OTH) characterization of service. Your administrative separation documents were not available, the Board noted that you provided no evidence to support the contentions, absent such evidence, the Board relied upon the presumption of regularity and presumed that the officials acted in good faith following governing law and policy. Based upon this review, the Board concluded these potentially mitigating factors were insufficient to warrant relief. Specifically, the Board determined that your repeated misconduct, as evidenced by your four NJPs outweighed these mitigating factors. Accordingly, given the totality of the circumstances, the Board determined that your request does not merit relief.

You are entitled to have the Board reconsider its decision upon submission of new matters, which will require you to complete and submit a new DD Form 149. New matters are those not previously presented to or 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.

