



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

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Docket No: 3715-21

Ref: Signature date

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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 three-member panel of the Board, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 13 October 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, applicable statutes, regulations, policies and advisory opinions (AO) provided by Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals (NDBDM) dated 20 August and 23 September 2021..

You enlisted in the Navy and began a period of active service on 16 March 1965. During your active service you served in the Republic of Vietnam Theatre of Operations on two separate occasions. On 21 October 1968, you were released from active duty and transferred to the naval reserve. At the time of your release, you were issued an Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge (DD Form 214) that reflected your entitlement to the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and Vietnam Campaign Medal. On 6 March 1998, the Bureau of Naval Personnel (BNP) verified your entitlement to the Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation Gallantry Cross, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Meritorious Unit Commendation Ribbon, Vietnam Service Medal with one silver and five bronze campaign stars, Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon and the National Defense Service Medal.

The Board carefully considered all factors to determine whether the interests of justice warrant relief in your case in accordance with applicable statutes and regulations. These included, but were not limited to, your desire to be awarded the Combat Action Ribbon, Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Commendation Gallantry Cross, Meritorious Unit Commendation Ribbon,

Vietnam Service Medal with one silver and five bronze campaign stars, and the Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon.

On 20 August 2021, NDBDM provided Navy Personnel Command (NPC) an AO that verified your entitlement to the following awards: Combat Action Ribbon, Navy Unit Commendation, Meritorious Unit Commendation, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, with five campaign stars, Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation Gallantry Cross Color with Palm and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with 1960 Device. Based on AO, NPC issued you a Correction to DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 215) which included your missing awards. A copy is provided as the enclosure.

On 23 September 2021, NDBDM provided the Board an AO that explained that you were involved in five Vietnam Service Medal campaign phases (each campaign phase represented by one campaign star). Therefore, you were not entitled to a silver and bronze campaign star as requested, or as previously verified by BNP. The Board concurred with the AO and found that no further correction to your record was warranted.

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.

Sincerely,

11/15/2021
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Executive Director

Signed by: █

Enclosure: DD Form 215 dtd 17 Sep 21