



unauthorized absence decision as a “precipitating traumatic event.” Additional information is required to render an alternate opinion. Should you choose to submit additional records, they will be reviewed in the context of your claims. The AO concluded by opining that there is insufficient evidence that you incurred PTSD or another mental health condition during your military service, and there is insufficient evidence that your misconduct could be attributed to a mental health condition.

The Board carefully reviewed your application, weighed all potentially mitigating factors, and considered your contentions that the circumstances surrounding your mother’s illness at the time drove you to go AWOL. Your mother was in a diabetic coma and having no one to care for her drove you to not return to active duty. You further contend that you suffer from PTSD due to the fear that was left on you when you decided to stay home and not return to active duty; you have night sweats, flashbacks and sleepless nights. Additionally, since your discharge you have earned an associate’s degree obtained a CDL license, forklift certification and job training to become a production supervisor and you are currently a superintendent at your place of employment. After careful consideration of the AO, submission of supporting documentation, and applying liberal consideration, the Board did not find an error or injustice that warrants upgrading your characterization of service or granting clemency in the form of an upgraded characterization of service.

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 contentions as previously discussed and your desire to upgrade your discharge character of service. The Board commends you for your post service accomplishments; however, based upon this review, the Board concluded your potentially mitigating factors were insufficient to warrant relief. Specifically, the Board determined your misconduct as evidenced by your SPCM conviction and subsequent BCD, outweighed these mitigating factors. Accordingly, given the totality of the circumstances, the Board determined 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.

Sincerely,

2/3/2022

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Executive Director

Signed by: █