



In your application to the Board, you request an upgrade to an honorable discharge and stated that at the time of your military service you were young and emotional. You also note that since your discharge, you served as a police officer and a firefighter, and retired as a 26-year veteran of the Police Department. You also became a paramedic, a certified pilot, and a "Certified Master" for coastal voyages. You provide letters of support which document your post-discharge achievements.

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 statement that you were young and emotional during your time in the Marine Corps and to your post-discharge achievements and accomplishments. The Board noted that the length of your service as reflected on your Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge (DD Form 214) was 5 months and 11 days. The Board also noted that you received a general characterization of service, which is not an adverse discharge. The Board found that even in consideration of your youth, your emotional immaturity at the time of your military service, your tremendous post discharge achievements, and your contributions to your community, that the short length of time for which you served supported your general discharge. The Board determined that you did not establish that an honorable characterization of service is warranted for your less than six months of service in the Marine Corps. The Board noted that under current policy, you could have been separated with an uncharacterized discharge/Entry Level Separation given that you were notified of administrative separation proceedings within your first six months of duty. The Board concluded that your general discharge as issued in April 1966 was consistent with the policy in place at the time, and that your current characterization of service is neither erroneous nor unjust. Accordingly, the Board determined that corrective action is not 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,

11/10/2021

[REDACTED]

Executive Director

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