



notified of administrative separation processing for entry-level performance or conduct as evidenced by failure to adapt to the Marine Corps environment. You waived your right to consult with counsel and acknowledged that you would receive an entry-level separation. You were medically cleared for discharge on 20 September 1996 and separated with an uncharacterized characterization of service the same day.

You contend that you were not well mentally and physically while on active duty. You were hearing voices and wanted to get help but were told that you would have to stay in a mental hospital for at least six months. You state you were also supposed to be on the buddy program and were told that you were not when you arrived at Parris Island. You further contend your discharge should not be uncharacterized but should have been medical or a section eight.

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 your contentions noted above and desire to change your narrative reason for separation to disability. The Board also relied on the AO in making its determination. The AO noted that in-service, you were not diagnosed with a mental health condition, but your difficulty handling the stress of recruit training was recognized. Furthermore, the AO concluded there is insufficient evidence that you incurred an unfitting mental health condition during military service, and there is insufficient evidence that your separation from service could be attributed to an unfitting mental health condition. In its deliberations, the Board concurred with the AO and also determined that you were appropriately discharged for entry level performance and conduct based on your failure to adapt to the military training environment and lack of coping skills. The Board concluded the preponderance of the evidence does not support a finding that you were unfit for continued naval service as a result of a mental health condition. Specifically, in addition to the AO, the Board relied on the 19 September 1996 mental health evaluation that determined you were psychologically fit and suitable for full duty. 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.

Sincerely,

2/8/2022

[REDACTED]

Executive Director

Signed by: [REDACTED]