

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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

> Docket No: 6933-21 Ref: Signature Date



Dear Petitioner:

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 5 January 2022. 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 on 25 November 1986. On 1 June 1988, a summary court-martial (SCM) convicted you of possession of marijuana and wrongful use of marijuana while in the On 21 June 1988, you received a screening from the Counseling and Assistance Center (CAAC), which determined you were not dependent on marijuana, and recommended you attend the Level 1 training program, be placed on the urinalysis surveillance program, and healed accountable for your actions. Subsequently, you were notified of pending administrative separation action by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse. You elected to consult with legal counsel and subsequently requested an administrative discharge board (ADB). The ADB found that you committed misconduct due to drug abuse and recommended you receive an other than honorable (OTH) characterization of service. The separation authority (SA) concurred with the ADB and directed an OTH discharge by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse. On 30 December 1988, you were so discharged.

Docket No: 6933-21

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 contentions that your drug test results were inconclusive and since discharge, you finished college, have been working for the Department of Defense (DOD) for 16 years, have grown, and accomplished a lot.

The Board noted that there is no evidence in your record, and you submitted none, to support your contention that you drug test was inconclusive. The Board noted while commendable, your post-service conduct does not excuse your conduct while enlisted in the Navy or the basis for your discharge. Lastly, the Board noted you requested an ADB, which found that you committed misconduct due to drug abuse, and recommended you receive an OTH discharge.

Based upon this review, the Board concluded these potentially mitigating factors were insufficient to warrant relief. Specifically, the Board determined that your misconduct as evidenced by your SCM and violation of the Navy's "Zero Tolerance" drug policy 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.

Sincerely,

