



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

Docket No. 7277-21
Ref: Signature Date

Dear [REDACTED],

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 case on its merits. A three-member panel of the Board, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 8 February 2022. The names and votes of the members of the panel 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 this 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.

You requested promotion to Corporal (Cpl)/E-4 and you requested to be awarded a Purple Heart. The Board, in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, to include your assertions. The Board concluded that the Marine Corps Personnel Manual of July 1964 outlined the requirements for promotion to Cpl/E-4. The specific criteria included completion of minimum service in grade; passing an appropriate locally prepared examination; and be otherwise qualified as determined by your Commander. Additionally, an appropriate vacancy in the unit table of organization/manning level must have existed prior to promotion. A review of your record indicates during your active duty service of 4 August 1966 through 25 June 1968, you were promoted to Lance Corporal/E-3 on 1 May 1967, however, the Board could not find, nor did you provide supporting documentation per the aforementioned policy to substantiate your claim for promotion to Cpl/E-4.

Regarding your request for a Purple Heart, the Board noted that you have not exhausted your administrative recourse with the Marine Corps as required by Secretary of the Navy Instruction 5420.193. You may contact Headquarters Marine Corps, Manpower Management Military Awards Branch at [REDACTED]; email at [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and/or phone at [REDACTED] to address your concerns.

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,

3/11/2022

[REDACTED]
Deputy Director
[REDACTED]