

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

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

> Docket No. 2168-22 Ref: Signature Date

From: Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records

To: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD ICO , USN,

Ref: (a) Title 10 U.S.C. § 1552

(b) BUPERSNOTE 1780

(c) NAVADMIN 236/18

(d) Title 38 U.S.C. Chapter 33

Encl: (1) DD Form 149 w/attachments

(2) Subject's naval record

- 1. Pursuant to the provisions of reference (a), Subject, hereinafter referred to as Petitioner, filed enclosure (1) with the Board for Correction of Naval Records (Board), requesting that his naval record be corrected to establish eligibility to transfer Post-9/11 GI Bill education benefits to eligible dependents.
- 2. The Board, consisting of \_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_ reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 13 April 2022 and, pursuant to its regulations, determined that the corrective action indicated below should be taken on the available evidence of record. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of the enclosures, relevant portions of Petitioner's naval record, and applicable statutes, regulations, and policies.
- 3. The Board, having reviewed all the facts of record pertaining to Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice, found that, before applying to this Board, he exhausted all administrative remedies available under existing law and regulations within the Department of the Navy. The Board made the following findings:
  - a. Petitioner's Active Duty Service Date is 18 August 2004.
  - b. On 8 November 2013, Petitioner reenlisted for a term of 6 years.
- c. Petitioner submitted TEB application on 3 August 2018. The Service rejected the application on 7 August 2018 indicating, Petitioner "has not committed to the required additional service time."
  - d. On 6 November 2019, Petitioner reenlisted for a term of 3 years.

- e. On 13 January 2020, Petitioner signed NAVPERS 1070/621, Agreement to Extend Enlistment for a term of 24-months to incur sufficient obligated service to executed BUPERS Order: 1619.
- f. Petitioner submitted second TEB application on 17 February 2021. The Service rejected the application on 18 February 2021 indicating, Petitioner "has not committed to the required additional service time."
- g. Petitioner submitted final TEB application on 7 March 2022. The Service rejected the application on 8 March 2022 indicating, Petitioner "has not committed to the required additional service time."
  - h. Petitioner completed TEB Statement of Understanding (SOU) on 15 March 2022.

## **CONCLUSION**

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record, the Board finds the existence of an injustice warranting the following corrective action. Petitioner met the basic eligibility criteria to transfer Post-9/11 GI Bill education benefits but failed to complete the administrative requirements outlined in reference (b)<sup>1</sup>. Although Petitioner did not complete the proper administrative requirements, the Board determined he continues to serve on active duty since reenlisting on 8 November 2013, thereby meeting the spirit and intent of reference (d); therefore, under these circumstances, relief is warranted.

## RECOMMENDATION

That Petitioner's naval record be corrected, where appropriate, to show that:

Petitioner elected to transfer unused education benefits to through the MilConnect TEB portal on 8 November 2013. Note: Petitioner transferred education benefits to after 7 January 2018.

In accordance with reference (b), the option to transfer a Service member's unused education benefits to an eligible dependent required a 4-year additional service obligation at the time of election. Additionally, enlisted personnel were required to have sufficient time on contract to meet the additional service requirement prior to initiating their electronic transfer election. Furthermore, the policy directed members to periodically check the status of their application; denied TEB applications required members to take corrective action and reapply with a new service obligation end date.

Reference (c), updated the TEB process by establishing an online, self-service SOU that replaced the NAVPERS 1070/613, Administrative Remarks effective 1 October 2018 and must be completed by all Sailors prior to submitting a TEB application.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act (Post-9/11 GI Bill, Public Law 110-252) was signed into law on 30 June 2008 and became effective on 1 August 2009. The bill provides financial support for education and housing for service members with at least 90 days of service on or after 11 September 2001. The act also includes provision for qualifying service members to transfer education benefits to their eligible dependents. General descriptions of the essential components of the law were widely available beginning in summer 2008 but specific implementing guidance was not published until summer 2009.

Commander, Navy Personnel Command (PERS-311) reviewed Petitioner's TEB application and it was approved on 8 November 2013 with a 4-year service obligation. Note: PERS-311 shall ensure Petitioner's Benefits for Education Administrative Tools record is updated to reflect the aforementioned approved allocations.

That no further changes be made to Petitioner's naval record.

That a copy of this report of proceedings be filed in Petitioner's naval record.

- 4. It is certified that a quorum was present at the Board's review and deliberations, and that the foregoing is a true and complete record of the Board's proceedings in the above-entitled matter.
- 5. Pursuant to the delegation of authority set out in Section 6(e) of the revised Procedures of the Board for Correction of Naval Records (32 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 723.6(e)), and having assured compliance with its provisions, it is hereby announced that the foregoing corrective action, taken under the authority of the reference, has been approved by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.

Deputy Director