



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

[REDACTED]
Docket No. 3395-22
Ref: Signature Date

From: Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records
To: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD ICO [REDACTED] [REDACTED], USN RET
[REDACTED]

Ref: (a) Title 10 U.S.C. § 1552
(b) DODFMR, Vol 7B, Chapter 43
(c) Title 10 U.S.C. § 3702 (b)(1)

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 her naval record be corrected to reflect declined participation in the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP).

2. The Board, consisting of [REDACTED] [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 25 May 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, she exhausted all administrative remedies available under existing law and regulations within the Department of the Navy. The Board made the following findings:

a. In accordance with reference (b), SBP elections must be made prior to retired pay becoming payable and the election to participate in or decline SBP is irrevocable. However, a member who is entitled to retired pay generally will be given automatic full coverage, unless the member elects to reduce coverage or declines participation, with proper concurrence of the eligible spouse, if applicable. Any change subsequent to retirement will be done through an administrative correction of records as permitted by law.

b. Petitioner's daughter [REDACTED] was born on [REDACTED].

c. Petitioner transferred to Retired List effective 1 July 2013 and was automatically enrolled in SBP coverage.

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d. On 3 January 2022, Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) received Petitioner's signed DD Form 2656-8, SBP Automatic Coverage Fact Sheet. DFAS suspended SBP coverage and issued premium refund from 4 January 2016; funds for the period of 1 July 2013 through 3 January 2016 were barred in accordance with reference (c).

e. On 17 May 2022, Petitioner signed SBP Affidavit before a notary witness requesting to decline participation in SBP.

CONCLUSION

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record, the Board finds the existence of an injustice warranting the following corrective action. The Board concluded Petitioner provided sufficient evidence to reflect she was unmarried at the time of retirement, and did not want to participate in SBP coverage for her than dependent daughter. Although the proper administrative requirements were not completed, the Board felt that under these circumstances, relief is warranted.

RECOMMENDATION

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

Petitioner elected to decline participation in SBP prior to transferring to the Retired List effective 1 July 2013.

Note: DFAS will complete an audit of Petitioner's pay records to determine the amount of premium refund.

A copy of this Report of Proceedings will 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.

6/16/2022

[REDACTED]