



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

█  
Docket No: 5053-22

Ref: Signature Date

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

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF FORMER MEMBER █  
XXX XX █ USMC

Ref: (a) Title 10 U.S.C. §1552  
(b) SECDEF Memo of 13 Sep 14 (Hagel Memo)  
(c) PDUSD Memo of 24 Feb 16 (Carson Memo)  
(d) USD Memo of 25 Aug 17 (Kurta Memo)  
(e) USECDEF Memo of 25 Jul 18 (Wilkie Memo)

Encl: (1) DD Form 149 w/attachments  
(2) Naval record (excerpts)  
(3) Advisory Opinion of 6 Sep 22

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 for a change of his narrative reason for separation and to list on his Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214) that he was attached to the "█."

2. The Board, consisting of █, █, and █, reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 28 September 2022 and, pursuant to its regulations, determined that the corrective action indicated below should be taken. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of Petitioner's application together with all material submitted in support thereof, relevant portions of Petitioner's naval record, applicable statutes, regulations, and policies, to include references (b) through (e).

3. The Board, having reviewed all the facts of record pertaining to Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice, finds as follows:

a. Before applying to this Board, Petitioner exhausted all administrative remedies available under existing law and regulation within the Department of the Navy.

b. Although enclosure (1) was not filed in a timely manner, the statute of limitation was waived in accordance with the Kurta Memo.

c. Petitioner enlisted in the Marine Corps and began a period of active duty on 18 June 2003.

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d. On 11 November 2003, Petitioner was issued an administrative remarks (Page 11) counseling concerning deficiencies in his performance and conduct: Specifically, underage drinking.

e. On 13 December 2004, Petitioner was issued a second Page 11 counseling concerning deficiencies in his performance and conduct: Specifically, failure to follow proper procedures in the clearing of a squad automatic rifle that resulted in the negligent discharge of that weapon.

f. In June 2005, Petitioner was diagnosed with a personality disorder and recommended for administrative discharge.

g. On 21 June 2005, Petitioner notified that he was being recommended for administrative discharge from the Marine Corps by reason of convenience of the government as evidenced by his diagnosed personality disorder. Petitioner advised of, and waived his procedural right to consult with military counsel and to present his case before an administrative discharge board.

h. Petitioner's commanding officer (CO) then forwarded the administrative separation package to the separation authority (SA) recommending that Petitioner be administratively discharged from the Marine Corps. The SA approved the recommendation for administrative discharge and directed Petitioner be separated "under honorable conditions" from the Marine Corps. Despite the SA's direction to separate Petitioner with a General (Under Honorable Conditions), on 22 August 2005, Petitioner was discharged from the Marine Corps with an Honorable characterization of service by reason of personality disorder.

i. Petitioner contends that the Department of the Navy did not recognize PTSD when he was discharged from the Marine Corps and feels that his current narrative reason for separation is inaccurate and untrue. In addition, he believes his DD Form 214 is incorrect since it does not document his service with the "[REDACTED] forces."

j. As part of the Board's review, a qualified mental health professional reviewed Petitioner's request and provided the Board with enclosure (3), an advisory opinion (AO). The AO stated in pertinent part:

Petitioner was appropriately referred for psychological evaluation during his enlistment and properly evaluated over multiple encounters, including a five-day psychiatric hospitalization. His diagnosis was based on observed behaviors and performance during his period of service, the information he chose to disclose, and the psychological evaluations performed by mental health clinicians as documented in his service records. Post-service, he has been diagnosed with service-connected PTSD by the VA. It is possible that the symptoms identified Personality Disorder Not Otherwise Specified with Cluster B features (PDNOS) during military service have been re-conceptualized as PTSD.

The AO concluded, "it is my considered clinical opinion there is post-service evidence of a diagnosis of PTSD that may be attributed to military service. There is in-service evidence of another mental health condition (PDNOS). There is evidence the circumstances of his separation could be attributed to PTSD or another mental health condition (PDNOS)."

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## CONCLUSION

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record, the Board concludes that Petitioner's request merits partial relief, given the totality of his circumstances. The Board reviewed Petitioner's application under the guidance provided in references (b) through (e).

The Board determined that Petitioner's DD Form 214 should be changed to remove any reference to a mental health diagnosis and reflect a less stigmatizing reason for separation. The Board concluded that Petitioner's request warrants relief in the form of changing his narrative reason for separation to "Secretarial Authority", separation authority changed to "MARCORSEPMAN par 6214", and SPD code changed to "JFF."

Notwithstanding the corrections recommended below, the Board concluded Petitioner's reenry code should remain unchanged based on his unsuitability for further military service due to his existing mental health condition.

Regarding Petitioner's request to have "[REDACTED]" listed on his DD Form 214, in accordance with naval regulations, the member's "Last Duty Assignment and Major Command" is the only listing permitted on the DD Form 214. Therefore, the Board found no basis for relief on this issue.

As previously discussed, the Board did find an additional error with Petitioner's assigned characterization of service on his DD Form 214. However, the Board chose not to direct any changes regarding his characterization of service since it was determined to not be in the interests of justice to do so.

## RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the above, the Board recommends that the following corrective action be taken on Petitioner's naval record in the interests of justice:

That Petitioner be issued a new DD Form 214 reflecting that his narrative reason for separation was "Secretarial Authority," the SPD code assigned was "JFF1," and the separation authority was "MARCORSEPMAN PAR. 6214."

That no further correction action be taken on Petitioner's naval record.

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

4. It is certified that 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

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corrective action, taken under the authority of reference (a), has been approved by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.

10/14/2022

