

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

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

> Docket No. 5327-22 Ref: Signature Date

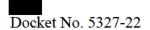
Dear

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 18 October 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 the rank of sergeant and 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. However, the Board concluded that Marine Corps Personnel Manual outlined the requirements for promotion to sergeant. The specific criterion included completing the minimum service in grade as established by the Commandant of the Marine Corps, pass an appropriate general military skills test, have a composite score equal to or above the minimum established for your occupational field, and be otherwise qualified as determined by a commander. Although you may have met the minimum service in grade requirement, the Board could not find, nor did you provide, evidence of what your composite score was and or that it was equal to or above the minimum established for your occupational field. Additionally, upon review of your NAVMC 118(5)-PD, Record for Promotion, Reduction, Examination for Promotion, the Board determined the entry specifies the required composite score for the rank of sergeant in your occupational field, and does not reflect your promotion to sergeant.

In regards to your request to be awarded a Purple Heart, the Board found that you have not exhausted your available administrative recourse in accordance with the Secretary of the Navy



Instruction 5420.193. You may address your award concerns with Headquarters Marine Corps, Military Awards Branch (MMMA), 2008 Elliot Road, Quantico, VA 22134-5103, via phone: 703-784-9206, or by email: smb hqmc veteranrequests@usmc.mil.

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.

