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Docket No: 5561-22

Based upon this review, the Board concluded these potentially mitigating factors were insufficient to warrant relief. The Board determined that there is no evidence that the name ██████████ was erroneous at the time the records was created or reason to believe that retaining ██████████ in your records will cause any hardship or injustice. Although you provided evidence to support your legal name change, the Board found that the name listed on your discharge documents accurately reflects your legal name at the time of your discharge from naval service. The Board's well-established precedent is to grant name change requests only when the name to be changed presents a hardship or injustice under the circumstances. For example, the Board routinely grants requests to change names on official records when a name change subsequent to naval service would require an applicant to reveal potentially embarrassing or discriminatory information in order to associate their current name with their naval record (e.g., transgender name changes), but routinely denies name change requests based upon marriage or court-ordered name changes. The latter simply does not present a hardship or injustice for the applicant to prove that they are the person described in the record. Accordingly, given the totality of the circumstances, the Board determined that your request does not merit relief.

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,

9/15/2022

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Executive Director

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