

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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

> Docket No. 7517-22 Ref: Signature Date

Dear Petitioner:

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.

A three-member panel of the Board, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 8 December 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, as well as the 23 September 2022 decision by the Marine Corps Performance Evaluation Review Board (PERB) and the 11 August 2022 Advisory Opinion (AO) provided to the PERB by the Manpower Management Division Records and Performance Branch (MMRP-30).

The Board determined your personal appearance, with or without counsel, would not materially add to their understanding of the issues involved. Therefore, the Board determined a personal appearance was not necessary and considered your case based on the evidence of record.

The Board carefully considered your request to remove the fitness report for the reporting period 1 January 2020 to 12 June 2020 due to unjust reporting from your Reporting Senior (RS) and Reviewing Officer (RO). You contend the mitigation policy prevented you from having contact with your RS until 30 days from executing orders and resulted in a sudden and dramatic reduction in your marks and comparative assessment.

The Board, however, substantially concurred with the AO and the PERB decision that the fitness report is valid as written and filed, in accordance with the applicable Performance Evaluation System (PES) Manual guidance. In this regard, the Board noted there is no requirement for you to be co-located with the reporting officials in order for observation to occur. The Board further

noted the respective comparative fitness reports were written for different duty assignments based on differentiated billet accomplishments for a discrete period of performance. Lastly, the Board noted you did not provide any evidence, other than your statement, that your performance and conduct warranted higher grades than were assessed. Based on the available evidence, the Board concluded there is insufficient evidence of an error or injustice warranting removal of the contested fitness report.

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.

