

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

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

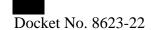
> Docket No. 8623-22 Ref: Signature Date

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 11 January 2023. 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 to change your record to reflect declined participation in the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP). The Board, in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, to include your assertions. The Board concluded that Department of Defense Financial Management Regulation 7000.14-R outlines the requirements for SBP elections. Specifically, the policy indicates, upon retirement, if a member becomes eligible to participate and has a former spouse and dependent children, who resulted from that marriage, the member may elect former spouse or former spouse and children coverage. Furthermore, the election to participate in or decline SBP coverage is irrevocable.

A review of your record reflects you divorced your first spouse on 5 April 2017 and the Final Judgement of Dissolution of Marriage with Dependent or Minor Children directed "The Wife is awarded former spouse coverage as beneficiary of Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP)." On 14 February 2019, you married your second spouse. You signed DD Form 2656, Data for Payment of Retired Personnel on 29 July 2019, electing SBP Spouse and Children coverage; you transferred to the Fleet Reserve effective 1 November 2019. On 22 September 2022, you divorced your second spouse; SBP Former Spouse coverage was not directed. On 22 September 2022, you also signed DD Form 2656-2, Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) Termination Request and



your former spouse signed the form before a notary witness on 26 September 2022; verification of your account indicates that SBP Spouse coverage discontinued but SBP Child coverage remains. The Board recommended that you submit another DD Form 149, Application for Correction of Military Record to update your SBP coverage to comply with your Final Judgement of Dissolution of Marriage with Dependent or Minor Children dated 5 April 2017 and the Amended Clarifying Order Dividing Military Retired Pay of 3 November 2021.

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.

