

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

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

> Docket No. 9477-22 Ref: Signature Date

> > , USN,

From: Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records

To: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF FORMER MEMBER

XXX-XX-

Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C. 1552

(b) 10 U.S.C. 654 (Repeal)

(c) UNSECDEF Memo OF 20 Sep 11 (Correction of Military Record following Repeal of U.S.C. 654)

Encl: (1) DD Form 149

(2) Naval record (excerpts)

- 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 that his naval record be corrected to change his narrative reason for separation to hardship or early separation. Enclosure (2) applies.
- 2. The Board, consisting of particles 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, and applicable statutes, regulations, and policies, to include the 25 July 2018 guidance from the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness regarding equity, injustice or clemency determinations (Wilkie Memo).
- 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 regulations within the Department of the Navy.
- b. Although enclosure (1) was not filed in a timely manner, it is in the interest of justice to review the application on its merits.
- c. Petitioner enlisted in the Navy and began a period of active service on 12 April 1993. On 2 October 1995, Petitioner submitted a statement with an admission of being a homosexual. On 3 October 1995, Petitioner was notified of the initiation of administrative separation proceedings

by reason homosexuality due to homosexual admission, at which point, Petitioner waived his right to consult with counsel, and his right to a hearing before an administrative discharge board (ADB). Subsequently, Petitioner's commanding officer recommended Petitioner be discharged with a General (Under Honorable Conditions). On 26 October 1995, the separation authority approved and directed Petitioner's discharge based on type warranted by service record. On 6 November 1995, Petitioner was discharged with an Honorable character of service by reason of homosexuality. He was issued a RE-4 reentry code and a SPD code of HRA.

- d. References (b) and (c) set forth the Department of the Navy's current policies, standards, and procedures for correction of military records following the "don't ask, don't tell" (DADT) repeal of 10 U.S.C. 654. It provides service Discharge Review Boards with the guidance to grant requests to change the characterization of service to "Honorable," narrative reason for discharge to "Secretarial Authority," SPD code to "JFF," and reentry code to "RE-1J," when the original discharge was based solely on DADT or a similar policy in place prior to enactment of it and there are no aggravating factors in the record, such as misconduct.
- e. Petitioner states he was not romantically, or sexually involved with another service member. Petitioner contends he filed a grievance against another service member due to harassment. Petitioner contends, his discharged was due to rumors spread as retaliation by another service member because he filed a complaint.

## **CONCLUSION:**

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record, and especially in light of references (b) and (c), the Board concludes that Petitioner's request partial warrants relief. The Board determined Petitioner was discharged solely based on his homosexual admission and his record did not contain any aggravating factors. Therefore, the Board determined Petitioner was eligible for full relief under reference (c).

Notwithstanding the corrective action recommended below, the Board determined Petitioner's request to change his separation reason to hardship or early separation is not supported by the evidence. Ultimately, the Board concluded any injustices contained in Petitioner's record is adequately addressed by the recommended corrective action.

In view of the above, the Board directs the following corrective action.

## RECOMMENDATION:

That Petitioner's be issued a new Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214) indicating a "Secretarial Authority" narrative reason for separation, "RE-1J" reenlistment code, "JFF" separation code, and "MILPERSMAN 1910-164" separation authority.

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

4. It is certified that a 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 Regulation, Section 723.6(e)) and having assured compliance with its provisions, it is hereby announced that the foregoing corrective action, taken under the authority of reference (a), has been approved by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.

