

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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

> Docket No. 486-23 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 23 February 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, as well as the 3 January 2023 decision by the Marine Corps Performance Evaluation Review Board (PERB), and the 22 November 2022 Advisory Opinion (AO) provided to the PERB by the Manpower Management Division Records and Performance Branch (MMRP-30). The PERB decision and AO were provided to you on 3 January 2023. Although you were afforded an opportunity to submit a rebuttal, you chose not to do so.

The Board carefully considered your request to remove your 24 July 2019 to 31 March 2020 Fitness Report. The Board considered your contention that your Reporting Senior did not accurately report your performance, professional qualities, and potential by allowing personal biases to influence his evaluation during the reporting period.

The Board, however, substantially concurred with the AO and the PERB Decision that the report is valid as written and filed, in accordance with the applicable Performance Evaluation System (PES) Manual guidance. In this regard, the Board noted that your contentions lack substantiation by any supporting evidence beyond your personal statement. Further, the Board noted that PERB petitions alleging reporting official bias are difficult to sustain and that low relative value does not constitute grounds for relief. Moreover, the Board noted that you omitted any evidence of error or injustice with the RO portion of the evaluation, further diminishing the argument for

removal. The Board thus concluded that your request is lacking in substantial evidence of error or injustice of the fitness report in question. 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.

