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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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

> Docket No. 3173-23 Ref: Signature Date



Dear ,

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 2024. 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. In addition, the Board considered the advisory opinion (AO) by Headquarters, U. S. Marine Corps (HQMC) memorandum 1070 JPL of 29 August 2023, which was previously provided to you for comment, and your response to the AO.

On 26 January 2016, you entered active duty for 5 years with an end of current contract (ECC) of 25 January 2021. On 7 July 2016, you were assigned Primary Military Occupational Specialties (PMOS) 0311. On 2 September 2016, you were assigned ADMOS1 8152. On 1 April 2020, you were promoted to Sergeant/E-5.

MARADMIN 376/20 published on 20 June 2020 announced the Selective Retention Bonus (SRB) program and the Broken Service SRB (BSSRB) program authorized for FY21. With the advent of several new SRB programs, Marines are encouraged to thoroughly review the contents of this bulletin. First Term Marines (Zone A) and career Marines (Zone B, C, D, and E) who reenlist on or after 7 July 2020 are eligible for the FY21 SRB program. This will include: Any regular component first term or career Marine with an ECC from 1 October 2020 to 30 September 2021.

Early Reenlistment Kicker. Marines in Zones A, B, and C who submit for a 48-month reenlistment between 7 July 2020 through 30 September 2020 with a PMOS that is listed in section(s) 3.1, 3.m, and 3.n, and are subsequently approved, will rate an 8,000 dollar Early Reenlistment Kicker in addition to the PMOS bonus amount listed in section(s) 3.1, 3.m, and 3.n. After 30 Sep 20, this Early Reenlistment Kicker will expire.

Zone A PMOS bonus eligibility. Zone A applies to those active component Marines with 17 months to 6 years of active military service. First term Marines with exactly 6 years of active military service on the date of reenlistment may be paid a Zone A PMOS bonus if they have not previously received a Zone A PMOS bonus. If they have received a Zone A PMOS bonus, or if no Zone A PMOS bonus is designated, they may be paid a Zone B PMOS bonus. Bonus payments are limited to one payment per Zone. Zone A lateral move PMOS bonus payments are only authorized for those PMOS(s) designated with Lateral Move (LM). Marines who already hold a PMOS with a LM designator and are in Zone A will rate the PMOS bonus listed below. Zone A PMOS bonus payments for Marines who reenlist for at least 48 months obligated service are authorized as listed below in dollars (bonuses for Marines who reenlist for 36 to 47 months obligated service will be calculated as per para 3.i). Furthermore, a zone "A" SRB for MOS 0311, E-5, which is capped at \$12,000 for 48 months of additional obligated service was authorized.

On 16 September 2020, your First Term Active Duty Reenlistment request was submitted to HQMC and approved on 6 November 2020 for reenlistment no later than 20 November 2020. Furthermore, "Per MARADMIN 376/20 this Marine is eligible for a SRB estimated at \$12,000, less applicable state and government taxes. The maximum possible bonus for this reenlistment is \$12,000. SNM must serve for the duration of this reenlistment in the PMOS or AMOS for which the bonus is paid in accordance with MCO 7220.24P. Failure to do so will result in recoupment of the bonus paid unless a specific waiver is granted by this Headquarters (MPP-20). Final determination of all SRB amounts will be made by a Disbursing Office or the Defense Finance Accounting Service.

Per MARADMIN 376/20 this Marine is eligible for a SRB Kicker in the amount of \$8,000, less applicable state and government taxes. SNM must maintain requirements in accordance with MARADMIN 376/20."

On 26 January 2022, you entered Zone B.

On 3 January 2023, the Commanding Officer, that they request removing you from legal hold on 3 January 2023 and change your end of active service (EAS) date to 25 February 2023, and you were found not guilty at General Court-Martial.

On 25 January 2023, your First Term Active Duty Reenlistment request was submitted to HQMC and approved on 1 February 2023. Noting that this request does not rate a BSSRB or SRB in accordance with MARADMIN 295/22. On 2 February 2023, you reenlisted for 4 years with an ECC of 1 February 2027.

On 3 May 2023, Legal Officer, notified HQMC that you were in a legal hold status while awaiting court-martial, during which he was subsequently found not guilty and acquitted of all charges on 21 December 2022.

You requested to receive an SRB, the Board in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, to include your assertion that the court-martial took you past your 6-year mark so you could not reenlist and/or get your reenlistment bonus. However, the Board concluded that MARADMIN 376/20 was published on 20 June 2020. At that time, you met all stated requirements for the 0311, E-5, Zone A SRB. On 6 November 2020, HQMC

approved your First Term Active Duty Reenlistment request, Zone A SRB and Early Reenlistment Kicker, however you declined due to your father's medical status. You were placed on legal hold in December 2020 and while your legal hold status precluded you from requesting reenlistment in 2021, you could have reenlisted and received the Zone A SRB in 2020 before the legal hold was in place. You were involuntarily put on legal hold to keep you on active duty beyond your EAS in order to be tried by court-martial. Your choice to reenlist after your acquittal does not justify the receipt of a reenlistment bonus that you chose not to take prior to December 2020. In this connection, the Board substantially concurred with the comments contained in the AO.

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.

