



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

██████████  
Docket No. 3812-23  
Ref: Signature Date

████████████████████  
██  
████████████████████

Dear Petitioner:

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to Title 10, United States Code, Section 1552. 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.

Although you did not file your application in a timely manner, the Board waived the statute of limitation in accordance with the 25 August 2017 guidance from the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (Kurta Memo). A three-member panel of the Board, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 20 November 2023. The names and votes of the panel members 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 the 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, to include to the Kurta Memo, the 3 September 2014 guidance from the Secretary of Defense regarding discharge upgrade requests by Veterans claiming post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) (Hagel Memo), and the 25 July 2018 guidance from the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness regarding equity, injustice or clemency determinations (Wilkie Memo). The Board also considered the advisory opinion (AO) of a qualified mental health provider and licensed clinical psychologist which was previously provided to you. You were afforded an opportunity to submit a rebuttal, but did not.

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

You enlisted in the Marine Corps and began a period of active duty on 8 August 1995. A medical evaluation was requested on 3 October 1995 due to apparent enuresis, which was confirmed by medical diagnosis. Records indicate that, although you had no prior history of

mental health treatment, pre-service experiences had rendered you unable to cope with the stress of boot camp. You were administratively counseled regarding your inability to adapt to a military environment and notified of entry-level separation for entry level performance and conduct due to your failure to adapt. At the time of your discharge on 12 October 1995, you had served less than 3 total months of active duty and were therefore issued an “Uncharacterized” discharge in accordance with applicable regulations.

The Board carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, to include your desire to upgrade your “other than honorable” discharge to “Honorable” as well as your contentions that you experienced a variety of bullying and harassment during recruit training, which caused you to become overwhelmed by past trauma, and you began to urinate on yourself repeatedly. The Board noted that your enuresis was considered to be a disqualifying condition which rendered you unsuitable for continued military service. The clinical opinion provided by the AO found no evidence of error with respect to that diagnosis and observed that evidence of your post-discharge diagnosis of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHA) indicates that it temporally remote from your military service and appears unrelated. In this regard, the Board concurred with the AO.

More significantly, however, the Board observed that you were not issued an “other than honorable” discharge; rather, you were discharged with uncharacterized service due to the simple fact that you served in the Marine Corps for less than 180 days of continuous active service. The Board found that “uncharacterized” service is directed by regulation given your entry-level status and the brevity of your service. Your record did not reflect misconduct such as might warrant consideration of an other than honorable discharge. Barring misconduct, the other exception which might result in characterized service would have required that your performance and conduct during your brief period of service was so extraordinary and noteworthy that it clearly merited an “Honorable” characterization, which would then require individual review by the Secretary of the Navy. The Board identified no applicable circumstances in that regard and reiterated that uncharacterized service is not considered to be honorable, under honorable conditions, or other than honorable because it merely reflects that your length of service was too short to earn a characterization. In light of the above considerations, the Board found no evidence of error or injustice in your uncharacterized, entry-level discharge and concluded that the potentially mitigating factors you submitted for consideration are insufficient to alter the fact that your service did not meet the minimum required period for a characterization. Accordingly, the Board determined that your request does not warrant relief.

