



The Board carefully considered all potentially factors to determine whether the interests of justice warrant relief in your case. These included, but were not limited to, your contention that you earned the National Defense Service Medal (NDSM), the Good Conduct Medal (GCM), and Aircrew wings.

As part of the Board's review process, Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals issued an AO dated 11 August 2023. The AO noted in pertinent part:

The Petitioner served on active duty from 4 Oct 1976 to 12 Oct 1979, just barely more than three (3) years. Therefore, he did not meet the NGCM criteria of four years of continuous active service. Further, he received non-judicial punishment on 20 Jan 1979, which nullified any period of good conduct up to that point, and started over his qualifying period.

The entire period of the Petitioner's service fell outside the dates of eligibility for the NDSM [1 Dec 1960 to 15 Aug 1974 and 1 Aug 1990 to 30 Nov 1995], and therefore he does not qualify for that medal.

The AO concluded, "the Petitioner never qualified for either the NGCM or the NDSM. We found no evidence of material error or injustice in this case, and therefore recommend BCNR deny relief. Were BCNR to grant relief, such action would be inconsistent with the standards and criteria applied to all other Service Members."

The Board carefully considered all potentially mitigating factors to determine whether the interests of justice warrant relief in your case. After thorough review, the Board concluded these potentially mitigating factors were insufficient to warrant relief. Specifically, the Board concurred with the AO that you did not meet the eligibility requirements for the NGCM or NDSM, and found no evidence that you earned Navy Aircrew wings. 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.

Sincerely,

10/31/2023

