

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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

Docket No. 7132-23 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 26 October 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 14 July 2023 decision by the Marine Corps Performance Evaluation Review Board (PERB) and the 20 April 2023 Advisory Opinion (AO) provided to the PERB by the Manpower Management Division Records and Performance Branch (MMRP-30).

The Board carefully considered your request to remove the fitness report for the reporting period 20 August 2022 to 15 December 2022. You contend the draft version of the performance evaluation was rendered adverse despite a pending investigation and legal matter. Further, you contend you are a Tier 1 Marine that has, on average, been most enthusiastically recommended for promotion ahead of peers and whose overall performance is consistently outstanding.

The Board, however, substantially concurred with the AO and the PERB decision 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 your petition omits any evidence, beyond your statement, to validate your contentions. Additionally, the Board concurred that the fact your reporting chain erroneously prepared an adverse fitness report before the completion of the investigation and legal matter does not invalidate the final corrected version. The Board also noted your past performance but determined the reporting chain was not constrained to evaluate your performance during the reporting period as outstanding just because previous reporting

officials had found it so. Based on the available evidence, the Board concluded there is insufficient evidence of an error or injustice warranting removal of the contested fitness report.

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.

