



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

██████████  
Docket No. 8778-23  
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.

Although your application was not filed in a timely manner, the Board found it in the interest of justice to waive the statute of limitations and consider your case on its merits. A three-member panel of the Board, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 5 December 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.

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

You requested promotion to the rank of sergeant based on your record of service. The Board, in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, to include your assertions. However, the Board concluded that the Marine Corps Personnel Manual of 1964 stipulates the requirements for promotion to sergeant. The policy specified, “[p]romotion to grade of sergeant will be authorized on the basis of vacancies existing through the Marine Corps and will be computed for each eligible Marine at such time as the Commandant of the Marine Corps shall direct.” The policy further outlined four criteria for promotion to sergeant; “[c]omplete the minimum service in grade requirement as established by the Commandant of the Marine Corps. Pass an appropriate General Military Subjects Test (GMST). Have a composite score equal to or above the minimum established for his occupation field. Be otherwise qualified as determined by your commander.”

A review of your record reflects you enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps on 9 June 1966 and subsequently promoted to corporal effective 1 August 1967. On 10 July 1969, you honorably released from active duty and transferred to the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve to complete your military service obligation. The Board could not find, nor did you provide evidence of meeting the eligibility requirements per the aforementioned policy. Therefore, the Board determined that a change to your record is not warranted.

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,

12/7/2023

█

Deputy Director

Signed by: █