

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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

> Docket No. 658-24 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 applications on 5 March 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, as well as the 25 January 2024 Advisory Opinion (AO) provided by Navy Personnel Command (PERS-32). Although you were afforded an opportunity to submit a rebuttal, you chose not to do so.

The Board carefully considered your request to modify your promotion recommendation to Early Promote "EP" on your Evaluation & Counseling Record (Eval) for the reporting period 16 November 2022 to 30 April 2023. The Board considered your contention that the Must Promote "MP" was in retaliation for filing a Command Managed Equal Opportunity (CMEO) Harassment complaint against a co-worker.

The Board, however, substantially concurred with the AO that the Fitness Report is valid as written and filed, in accordance with the applicable Navy Performance Evaluation System (PES) guidance. In this regard, the AO notes that the reporting senior (RS) does not have to provide justification for the promotion recommendation. The Board further noted the eval was not adverse and contains no adverse information or comments. The RS assigned a "Must Promote" promotion recommendation which does not violate the relevant policy. Finally, the Board noted there is nothing in your petition that indicates the RS acted for illegal or improper purposes or that the Eval lacked rational support. Thus, the Board concluded that there is no probable material error, substantive inaccuracy, or injustice warranting corrective action. Accordingly,

given the totality of the circumstances, the Board determined that your request does not merit relief.

You also indicate in your application that you are the victim of reprisal. The Board, however, determined, other than your personal statement, there was insufficient evidence to conclude you were the victim of reprisal in violation of 10 USC 1034. 10 USC 1034 provides the right to request Secretary of Defense review of cases with substantiated reprisal allegations where the Secretary of the Navy's follow-on corrective or disciplinary actions are at issue. Additionally, in accordance with DoD policy you have the right to request review of the Secretary of the Navy's decision regardless of whether your reprisal allegation was substantiated or non-substantiated. Your written request must show by clear and convincing evidence that the Secretary of the Navy acted arbitrarily, capriciously, or contrary to law. This is not a de novo review and under 10 USC 1034(c) the Secretary of Defense cannot review issues that do not involve reprisal. You must file within 90 days of receipt of this letter to the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)), Office of Legal Policy,

Your written request must contain your full name, grade/rank, duty status, duty title, organization, duty location, mailing address, and telephone number; a copy of your BCNR application and final decisional documents; and, a statement of the specific reasons why you are not satisfied with this decision and the specific remedy or relief requested. Your request must be based on factual allegations or evidence previously presented to the BCNR, therefore, please also include previously presented documentation that supports your statements.

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.

