



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

ADDENDUM TO RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-1988-02637-2

Work-Product

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

The Board reconsider his request to upgrade his general (under honorable conditions) discharge to honorable.

RESUME OF THE CASE

The applicant is a former Air Force airman (E-2) who received at general (under honorable conditions) discharge on 3 Apr 75.

On 24 Jan 89, the Board considered and denied his request to upgrade his discharge characterization from general (under honorable conditions) to honorable. The Board concluded there was insufficient relevant evidence presented to demonstrate the existence of probable error or injustice. Although the applicant submitted evidence of his post-service activities, the Board was not persuaded to grant his request when considering the overall nature of the applicant's service record.

For an accounting of the applicant's original request and the rationale of the earlier decision, see the AFBCMR Letter and Record of Proceedings at Exhibit E.

On 15 Jun 24, the applicant requested reconsideration of his request for a discharge upgrade characterization to honorable, stating he has thought about his discharge for 30 years and did not think he would have another chance to request an upgrade. He contended he has been a good citizen and regretted his decision to "go out on a General Discharge," with the rumor that he would automatically be upgraded to an honorable six months after discharge.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit F.

POST-SERVICE INFORMATION

On 14 Aug 24, the Board sent the applicant a request for post-service information and advised the applicant he was required to provide a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Identity History Summary Check, which would indicate whether or not he had an arrest record. In the alternative, the applicant could provide proof of employment in which background checks are part of the hiring process (Exhibit G). The applicant replied on 19 Oct 24 and provided an FBI report dated 21 Aug 24. According to the report, the applicant was charged with destruction of private property and assault and battery on 11 Feb 75; and battery on 8 Dec 75. The applicant also provided the

following new evidence: (1) character letter; (2) FBI report; (3) financial information (credit report and donation pledge); (4) college diplomas; (5) fraternal organization membership; and (6) certified summary of Federal Service and retirement plan report for the United States Postal Service.

The applicant's complete response is at Exhibit H.

APPLICABLE AUTHORITY/GUIDANCE

On 25 Jul 18, the Under Secretary of Defense issued supplemental guidance (Wilke Memo) to military corrections boards in determining whether relief is warranted based on equity, injustice, or clemency. These standards authorize the board to grant relief in order to ensure fundamental fairness. Clemency refers to relief specifically granted from a criminal sentence and is a part of the broad authority Boards have to ensure fundamental fairness. This guidance applies to more than clemency from sentencing in a court-martial; it also applies to any other corrections, including changes in a discharge, which may be warranted on equity or relief from injustice grounds. This guidance does not mandate relief, but rather provides standards and principles to guide Boards in application of their equitable relief authority. Each case will be assessed on its own merits. The relative weight of each principle and whether the principle supports relief in a particular case, are within the sound discretion of each Board. In determining whether to grant relief on the basis of equity, an injustice, or clemency grounds, the Board should refer to the supplemental guidance, paragraphs 6 and 7.

Department of the Air Force Instruction (DAFI) 36-3211, *Military Separations*, describes the authorized service characterizations.

Honorable. The quality of the airman's service generally has met Department of the Air Force standards of acceptable conduct and performance of duty or when a member's service is otherwise so meritorious that any other characterization would be inappropriate.

General (Under Honorable Conditions). If an airman's service has been honest and faithful, this characterization is warranted when significant negative aspects of the airman's conduct or performance of duty outweigh positive aspects of the member's military record.

The entire guidance can be found at Exhibit G.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

1. The application was timely filed.
2. The applicant exhausted all other available administrative remedies before applying to the Board.
3. After reviewing all Exhibits, the Board remains unconvinced that the evidence presented demonstrates an error or injustice. It appears the discharge was consistent with the substantive requirements of the discharge regulation and was within the commander's discretion. Nor was the discharge unduly harsh or disproportionate to the offenses committed. In the interest of justice, the Board considered upgrading the discharge based on fundamental fairness; however, given the evidence presented, the Board is not persuaded to do so. While the applicant submitted new information showing his commendable post-service status and accomplishments, the Board noted his arrests for violent acts, for which Wilkie relief is generally not appropriate. Therefore, the

Board determined that a general (under honorable conditions) discharge characterization is appropriate and recommends against correcting the applicant's records.

RECOMMENDATION

The Board recommends informing the applicant that the evidence did not demonstrate material error or injustice, and the Board will reconsider the application only upon receipt of relevant evidence not already presented.

CERTIFICATION

The following quorum of the Board, as defined in Department of the Air Force Instruction (DAFI) 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*, paragraph 2.1, considered Docket Number BC-1988-02637-2 in Executive Session on 31 Jul 25:

Work-Product, Panel Chair
 Work-Product, Panel Member
 Work-Product, Panel Member

All members voted against correcting the record. The panel considered the following:

- Exhibit E: Record of Proceedings, w/ Exhibits A-D, dated 21 Feb 89.
- Exhibit F: Application, DD Form 149, dated 15 Jun 24.
- Exhibit G: Letter, SAF/MRBC, w/atchs (Post-Service Request and Liberal Consideration Guidance), dated 14 Aug 24.
- Exhibit H: FBI Report with Post-Service Information, 19 Oct 24.

Taken together with all Exhibits, this document constitutes the true and complete Record of Proceedings, as required by DAFI 36-2603, paragraph 4.12.9.

10/2/2025

Work-Product

Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR
 Signed by: USAF