

ADDENDUM TO RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2021-03865

XXXXXXXXXXXX

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: YES

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

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

RESUME OF THE CASE

The applicant is a former Air Force Reserve senior airman (E-4).

On 18 Aug 22, the Board considered and denied her request to upgrade her discharge from general (under honorable conditions) to honorable, finding the applicant had provided insufficient evidence of an error or injustice to justify relief. The applicant contended, and her unit confirmed, she did not receive her discharge notification as it was returned as undeliverable with no forwarding address; however, it was incumbent upon the applicant to ensure her contact information was updated with the unit.

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 F.

On 25 Aug 23, the applicant requested reconsideration of her request to upgrade her discharge from general (under honorable conditions) to honorable. She contended prior to being discharged by the Air Force, she already started receiving service-connected disability compensation payments. The decision to change the discharge by the Board was not granted based on the non-deliverable mail. During the time of her discharge, she was a full-time student living on campus with a mailing address and physical address. She provided her unit with both as required by the service member recall. She had not failed to provide a forwarding address because she had not moved; however, the mail was being sent to a physical address on campus and being returned as undeliverable because no mail is sent directly to the dorms of the students. These documents were not sent to her permanent address either. They were only mailed to her physical address which did not have the option for mail to be delivered to this location. She asks that prior to drawing a conclusion about a person's character, ask for missing facts before the determination is made. The process to be considered is long, and to be required to start from the beginning impacts a person mentally. It has taken her this long to respond because of the harshness involved in this process. In support of her reconsideration request, the applicant submitted the following new evidence: (1) Clark Atlanta University (CAU) Print and Mail Center website printout; (2) CAU Beckwith Hall website printout; and (3) Google Maps screenshot.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit G.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

1. The application was timely filed.
2. The applicant exhausted all available non-judicial relief before applying to the Board.
3. After reviewing all Exhibits, the Board remains unconvinced the evidence presented demonstrates an error or injustice. While the new evidence documents the mail handling process at the location the applicant claimed as her residence, it is not sufficient to overturn the previous Board's decision. Ultimately, it is still the applicant's responsibility to ensure her contact information, to include her mailing address, is accurately reflected in her military record. Should the applicant provide documentation pertaining to her post-service accomplishments, such as statements from community leaders and acquaintances attesting to her good character and reputation, and other evidence of successful post-service rehabilitation, the Board would be willing to review the materials for possible reconsideration of her request based on clemency. Therefore, the Board recommends against correcting the applicant's records.
4. The applicant has not shown a personal appearance, with or without counsel, would materially add to the Board's understanding of the issues involved.

RECOMMENDATION

The Board recommends informing the applicant 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-2021-03865 in Executive Session on 18 Jun 24:

, Panel Chair
, Panel Member
, Panel Member

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

Exhibit F: Record of Proceedings, w/ Exhibits A-E, dated 14 Dec 22.
Exhibit G: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 25 Aug 23.

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.

X

Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR