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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2022-02383

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: YES

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APPLICANT'S REQUEST

He be allowed to transfer his Post-9/11 GI Bill Transfer of Education Benefits (TEB) to his dependents.

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

He was unable to meet TEB eligibility requirements due to an injury that required him to separate. Due to no longer meeting the retainability requirement of the Post-9/11 GI Bill, he no longer had the option to transfer his education benefits to his spouse.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is a former Air Force staff sergeant (E-5).

On 4 October 2005, according to DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, the applicant entered active duty and on 3 October 2011, he was honorably released after serving 6 years total of active service and 8 months and 15 days of foreign service.

On 13 October 2005, the applicant signed DD Form 2366, *Montgomery GI Bill Act of 1984 (MGIB)*, Basic Enrollment.

For more information, see the excerpt of the applicant's record at Exhibit B and the advisory at Exhibit C.

APPLICABLE AUTHORITY/GUIDANCE

Directive-Type Memorandum (DTM) 09-003: Post 9/11 GI Bill,

Attachment 2, paragraph 3.a: <u>Eligible Individuals</u>. Any member of the Armed Forces on or after August 1, 2009, who, at the time of the approval of the individual's request to transfer entitlement to education assistance under this section, is eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill, and

(3)(a) For those individuals eligible for retirement on Aug 1, 2009, no additional service is required.

AFI 36-2306, Voluntary Education Program, dated 13 Aug 10, Attachment 9.

A9.18. Transferability of unused benefits to dependents.

A9.18.7. Time for Transfer, Revocation, and Modification.

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A9.18.7.1. Time for Transfer. A member approved to transfer entitlement to educational assistance under this section may transfer such entitlement only while serving as a member of the Armed Forces when the transfer is executed.

A9.18.9. Transfer of Benefits Procedures. All requests and transactions will be completed through the TEB Web application at **https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/TEB**/. Airmen are responsible for correcting inaccurate information. Airmen may request certification of Post-9/11 GI Bill eligibility from the DVA's website prior to requesting to transfer of benefits.

A9.18.9.3. Once certifying officials have approved a request to transfer benefits, Airmen may print a hard copy of the certified TEB request for their personal records. Additional service commitments will be recorded in the appropriate personnel system(s). Additional service commitments resulting from transferring unused Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits begin on the date of request and are served concurrent with any other additional service commitment in effect at the time of the transfer or incurred at any time after the request to transfer benefits. Transfer of Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits, in and of itself, will not limit any other reenlistment option or incentive to which a member may be eligible.

A9.20. AFPC/DPS Specific Procedures (Active Duty) – Transfer of Benefits Option Responsibilities:

A9.20.1. MEMBERS MUST:

A9.20.1.3. Apply for this option through DMDC's (TEB) website (https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/TEB/).

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

AFPC/DP3SA recommends denying the application. The Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) shows no record the applicant applied for TEB. Without a request, eligibility for the program could not be established, as Directive-Type (DTM) memorandum 09-003: *Post-9/11 GI Bill* (Attachment 2, 3.a.) and AFI 36-2306, *Voluntary Education Program* (A9.18.1.2. and A9.18.9.3.), cite the date of request as the date on which the appropriate service obligation would be applied. Additionally, service members must have at least six years of service in the Armed Forces on the date of request. Lastly, in accordance with AFI 36-2306 (A9.18.7.1., A9.18.9. and A9.20.1.3.), all requests for TEB must be submitted via the DMDC TEB web application while serving as a member of the Armed Forces.

Based on the documentation provided by the applicant and analysis of the facts, there is no evidence of an error or injustice on the part of the Air Force. DMDC shows no record the applicant applied for TEB.

The complete advisory opinion is at Exhibit C.

APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATION

The Board sent a copy of the advisory opinion to the applicant on 18 October 2022 for comment (Exhibit D) but has received no response.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

- 1. The application was not timely filed.
- 2. The applicant exhausted all available non-judicial relief before applying to the Board.

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- 3. After reviewing all Exhibits, the Board concludes the applicant is not the victim of an error or injustice. The Board concurs with the rationale and recommendation of AFPC/DP3SA and finds a preponderance of the evidence does not substantiate the applicant's contentions. The Board also notes the applicant did not file the application within three years of discovering the alleged error or injustice, as required by Section 1552 of Title 10, United States Code, and Air Force Instruction 36-2603, Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR). The Board does not find it in the interest of justice to waive the three-year filing requirement. Therefore, the Board finds the application untimely and 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 application was not timely filed; it would not be in the interest of justice to excuse the delay; 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 Air Force Instruction (AFI) 36-2603, Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR), paragraph 1.5, considered Docket Number BC-2022-02383 in Executive Session on 10 January 2023:



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

Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 10 August 2022.

Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.

Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SA, w/atch, dated 28 September 2022.

Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 18 October 2022.

Taken together with all Exhibits, this document constitutes the true and complete Record of Proceedings, as required by AFI 36-2603, paragraph 4.11.9.

