



CUI//SP-MIL/SP-PRVCY

**UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS**

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2018-02329

Work-Product
(MEMBER)

COUNSEL: NONE

Work-Product
(APPLICANT)

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

Her deceased husbands records be corrected to reflect the following medals:

- a. The Southwest Asia Service Medal (SWASM).
- b. The Armed Forces Service Medal (AFSM).
- c. The Humanitarian Service Medal (HSM).
- d. The Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal (MOVSM).
- e. The Korean Defense Service Medal (KDSM) (Will be administratively corrected).
- f. The Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal (NDOSM) (Will be administratively corrected).

RESUME OF THE CASE

On 30 Sep 98, her deceased husband retired from the Air Force in the grade of technical sergeant (E-6).

On 6 Jun 18, the applicant submitted a DD Form 149, *Application for Correction of Military Record Under the Provisions of Title 10, U.S. Code, Section 1552* requesting award of the KDSM, NDOSM, SWASM, AFSM, HSM, and MOVSM for the deceased husband (Exhibit A).

On 19 Feb 19, the AFBCMR staff notified the applicant that her requests were forwarded to the Air Force Personnel Center (AFPC) for review and/or corrective action. Based on foregoing, the applicant's case was closed. The applicant was also notified that if AFPC was unable to resolve her requests, her application would be resubmitted to the AFBCMR by AFPC.

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Controlled by: SAF/MRB
CUI Categories: SP-MIL/SP-PRVCY
Limited Dissemination Control: N/A
POC: SAF.MRBC.Workflow@us.af.mil

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On 9 Oct 19, the AFPC Recognition Team informed the applicant they were able to verify her deceased husbands eligibility for award of the Air Force Commendation Medal with two Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters (AFCM w/2BOLCs), the KDASM, and NDOSM. However, they were unable to verify award of the SWASM, AFSM, HSM, and MOVSM. They informed the applicant that although she provided documents with the application to the Board, they did not support her request. They invited the applicant to provide source documents such as travel vouchers, AF Form 104, *Service Medal Award Verification*, and/or evaluation reports placing her deceased husband in the area of responsibility and informed her she should send evidence to AFPC within 30 days of the date of their letter. After 30 days, the case would be referred to the Board.

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

AFPC/DP3SP recommends denying award of the SWASM, AFSM, HSM, and MOVSM.

Per AFMAN 36-2806, *Awards and Memorialization Program*, section A15.3, and A15.3.2 the SWASM is awarded to all members of the U.S. Armed Forces who served in support of Operation DESERT SHIELD or DESERT STORM in one or more of the following areas from 2 Aug 90 through 30 Nov 95: The Persian Gulf, the Red Sea, the Gulf of Oman, the Gulf of Aden, that portion of the Arabian Sea that lies north of 100 N. latitude and west 680 E. longitude, as well as the total land areas of Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates. The service member must have been attached to or regularly serving for one or more days with an organization participating in ground and/or shore (military) operations; attached to or regularly served for one or more days aboard a naval vessel directly supporting military operations; actually participating as a crew member in one or more aerial flights directly supporting military operations in the areas designated above; or serving on temporary duty or 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days. These time limitations may be waived for people participating in actual combat operations. They were unable to verify the applicant participated in any military operations for award of the SWASM.

Per AFMAN 36-2806, section A14.13, the AFSM was established by Executive Order (E.O.) 12985, to recognize Service members who, on or after 1 Jun 92, participate, or have participated, in designated U.S. military operations and encounter no foreign armed opposition or imminent hostile action. The medal may be awarded to members who, after 1 Jun 92 participated, or have participated, as members of U.S. military units, in a U.S. military operation that is deemed to be a significant activity by the Joint Chiefs of Members Staff; and must have been permanently assigned, attached, or detailed to a unit that deployed to participate in a designated U.S. military operation within the area of eligibility for 30 consecutive days (or for the full period when an operation is less than 30 days) or for 60 non-consecutive days. Aircrew members must have participated as a regularly assigned crew member on an aircraft flying into, out of, within, or over the area of eligibility in direct support of the designated military operation for 30 consecutive days or 60 non-consecutive days. One day of service is credited for the first sortie flown on any day. Additional sorties flown on the same day receive no further credit. The medal recognizes participants who deploy to the designated area of eligibility for the qualifying operation. Outstanding or meritorious performance of non-deployed or remotely located support units and individuals does not justify awarding the Armed Forces Service Medal. Such performance may

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be recognized with a decoration. They were unable to verify the applicant participated in any military operations for award of the AFSM.

Per AFMAN 36-2806, section A14.14, the HSM was established by E.O. 11965, to recognize members who, after 1 Apr 75, distinguished themselves by meritorious direct participation in a DoD-approved significant military act or operation of a humanitarian nature. The medal is awarded to individual members or to entire military units who distinguished themselves by meritorious, direct participation in a military act or operation of a humanitarian nature. Direct participation is defined as “hands on” support at the site or sites of the military act or operation. They were unable to verify the applicant participated in any military operations for award of the HSM.

Per AFMAN 36-2806, section A14.15, the MOVSM was established by E.O. 12830, to recognize Service members who, after 31 Dec 92, perform outstanding volunteer community service of a sustained, direct, and consequential nature. The medal is awarded for volunteer service that meet the following requirements: be to the civilian community, to include the military family community, be significant in nature and produce tangible results, reflect favorably on the Air Force and DoD, and be of a sustained and direct nature. While there is no specific time period to qualify for the medal (for example, 500 hours of community service within 24 calendar months), approval authorities ensure the volunteer service merits special recognition. The medal is intended to recognize exceptional community support over time, not a single act or achievement. Further, it is intended to honor direct support of community activities. For the purpose of this award, attending membership meetings or social events of a community service group is not considered qualifying service, while manning a community crisis action telephone line for a sustained period of time is considered qualifying service. The overall level of volunteer participation and impact of a member’s community service is key to determining whether the medal is justified. Multiple awards of the medal during a single tour of duty are not authorized. However, a sustained record of significant community service performed during successive tours may be considered by approval authorities when adjudicating recommendations for the medal. The service recognized will be of voluntary nature, not detailed or tasked, nor performed as part of a military mission. The approval authority includes group commanders to include commanders of composite and provisional groups and (colonel) group commander, or equivalent, of geographically separated units. This approval authority may not be further delegated. They were unable to verify the applicant participated in any military community service for award of the MOVSM.

Notwithstanding the above, they were able to verify award of the AFCM w/2BOLCs, KDSM, and NDOSM. Accordingly, the applicant’s record will be administratively corrected.

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 2 Nov 21 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.
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/DP3SP 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.

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-2018-02329 in Executive Session on 22 Jun 22:

- 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 A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 6 Jun 18.
- Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 25 Sep 21.
- Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 2 Nov 21.

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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.

3/17/2023



Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR
Signed by: USAF