

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2019-01886

XXXXXXXXXX

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

His DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, Item 13, *Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized*, be amended to reflect award of the following:

- a. Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM) w/one Bronze Service Star (AFEM w/1BSS) (**Partially Administratively Corrected**).
- b. Air Force Achievement Medal (AFAM) (**Administratively Corrected**).

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

The contested awards are not reflected on his DD Form 214. He was awarded the AFEM twice (19 June 1999 and May 2000) for deployment in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH. The AFAM was awarded on 16 July 2001.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

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

According to DD Form 214, on 15 July 2001, the applicant was honorably released from active duty and transferred to the Air Force Reserve. He served four years of total active duty service and credited with no Foreign and/or Sea service.

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

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

AFPC/DP3SP recommends denying the one Bronze Service Star to the AFEM. After a thorough review of the applicant's official military personnel record and provided documentation to possibly provide administrative relief, AFPC/DP3SP was able to verify award of the AFEM for his deployment in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH and the AFAM. Accordingly, the applicant's record will be administratively corrected. However, DP3SP was unable to verify award of the one Bronze Service Star for the AFEM.

Per DoDM 1348.33-V2, 21 December 2016, Change, June 2020, 4.3.i.

AFEM. Subsequent awards are denoted by wearing a bronze service star on the AFEM suspension and service ribbon. Only one award of the AFEM is authorized for each designated military operation (i.e. only one AFEM is awarded for multiple deployments for the same designated operation). A silver service star is worn in lieu of five bronze service stars.

Per Air Force Manual 36-2806, 10 June 2019, A14.5.

AFEM. The medal is awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who, after 1 July 1958, participated in U.S. military operations, U.S. operations in direct support of the United Nations, or U.S. operations of assistance for friendly foreign nations. The Joint Chiefs of Staff designates operations that qualify for the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, specifies the degree of participation required, and defines the area of operations.

A14.5.1.6. Service members who earned the AFEM for operations in Southwest Asia (SOUTHERN WATCH, Maritime Intercept, NORTHERN WATCH, and DESERT SPRING) and then became eligible for the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal between 11 September 2001 to 18 March 2003 can elect to receive either the AFEM or Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, but they may not be awarded both for the same period.

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 12 October 2021 for comment (Exhibit D), but has received no response.

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 concludes the applicant is not the victim of an error or injustice regarding award of one Bronze Service Star to the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal. Therefore, 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. Therefore, other than the administrative corrections noted above, the Board recommends against correcting the applicant's records.

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 Air Force Instruction (AFI) 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*, paragraph 1.5, considered Docket Number BC-2019-01886 in Executive Session on 6 April 2022:

, Chair, AFBCMR
, Panel Member
, Panel Member

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

Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 4 March 2019.
Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 9 October 2021.
Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 12 October 2021.

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.

X

Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR