

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2019-03267

XXXXXXXXXX

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

His DD Form 214, Certificate of *Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, be corrected to reflect the following awards:

- a. Air Force Commendation Medal with two Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters **(Will be administratively corrected)**
- b. Humanitarian Service Medal
- c. Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

He participated in the building of water pallets for delivery to victims of Hurricane Sandy in 2012 while a member of the Maintenance Squadron. In addition, from 1 Feb 09 to 1 Aug 13, he volunteered over 648 hours teaching English to students while stationed at [Work-Product], Republic of Korea as well as serving as a youth sports coach while stationed at Joint Base [Work-Product].

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is a retired Air Force technical sergeant (E-6).

During the period of [Work-Product], according to AF Form 910, *Enlisted Performance Report*, while stationed at [Work-Product], Republic of Korea, the applicant spent 90 hours educating 93 Korean students in English.

During the period of [Work-Product], according to AF Form 910, while stationed at Joint Base [Work-Product], the applicant volunteered 68 hours coaching youth sports.

During the period of [Work-Product], according to AF Form 910, while stationed at Joint Base [Work-Product], the applicant volunteered 50 hours coaching youth sports.

During the period of [Work-Product], according to AF Form 910, while stationed at Joint Base [Work-Product], the applicant volunteered 80 hours coaching youth sports.

During the period of [Work-Product], according to AF Form 910, while stationed at Joint Base [Work-Product], the applicant volunteered 80 hours coaching youth sports.

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 award of the Humanitarian Service Medal and the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal. According to Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 36-2806, *Awards and Memorialization Program*, paragraph A14.14, the Humanitarian Service Medal was established by Executive Order 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. There is no official military documentation that the applicant participated in an approved operation for award of the Humanitarian Service Medal.

According to paragraph A14.15, the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal was established by Executive Order 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: (1) be to the civilian community, to include the military family community; (2) be significant in nature and produce tangible results; (3) reflect favorably on the Air Force and DoD; and (4) 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. Group commanders to include commanders of composite and provisional groups and (colonel) group commander, or equivalent, of geographically separated units are the approval authority. This approval authority may not be further delegated. The applicant contends he volunteered his time teaching English and as a youth sports coach; however, there is no documentation to verify he met the criteria for award of the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal. Additionally there is no evidence the applicant's group commander made a recommendation. To grant relief would be contrary to the criteria established by AFMAN 36-2806.

Notwithstanding the above, they were able to verify award of the Air Force Commendation Medal with two Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters. Accordingly, the applicant's record will be administratively corrected following the Board.

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 20 Oct 21 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. 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 correction that will be made to the record, 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-2019-03267 in Executive Session on 17 Mar 22:

- , Panel Chair
- , Panel Member
- , Panel Member

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

- Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, dated 23 Apr 19.
- Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, no atchs, dated 9 Oct 21.
- Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 20 Oct 21.

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