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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2021-01241

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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, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized* be corrected to reflect award of the Air Force Commendation Medal (AFCM).

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

He believes the award was omitted from his DD Form 214.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is a former Air Force sergeant (E-4) who entered the Regular Air Force on 8 Jun 77.

On 7 Jun 81, according to the applicant's DD Form 214, he was honorably discharged from the Regular Air Force. Awards listed in Item 13 include: Air Force Good Conduct Medal and the Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon.

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 AFCM. The applicant provided a citation with the official seal for award of the Air Force Commendation Medal, award inclusive dates from 27 Dec 77 to 7 Jun 81; however, the document was not located within the applicant's official military personnel record. Additionally, there was no Special Order or certificate provided or located to verify the award. Without a copy of the special order awarding the AFCM, AFPC/DP3SP is unable to verify the applicant's eligibility.

Per Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 36-2806, *Awards and Memorialization Program*, section A2.14, the AFCM is awarded to any service member, or to any member of the armed forces of a friendly

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foreign nation, who has distinguished himself or herself by meritorious achievement or service, valor, or heroism. The medal is awarded to U.S. and foreign military personnel in the grade of O-6 and below. The medal is awarded for achievement, service, or heroism that does not rise to the level of the Bronze Star Medal, or that does not rise to the level of the Airman's Medal. The medal may also be awarded for sustained meritorious performance by crewmembers.

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 25 Apr 23 for comment (Exhibit D) but has received no response.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

1. The application was not timely filed, but it is in the interest of justice to excuse the delay.
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 the victim of an error or injustice. While the Board notes the recommendation of AFPC/DP3SP against correcting the record, the Board finds a preponderance of the evidence substantiates the applicant's contentions. The applicant provided a citation with an official seal for award of the Air Force Commendation Medal. Although the document was not located within the applicant's official military personnel record, the Board finds the certificate to be authentic. Therefore, the Board recommends correcting the applicant's records as indicated below.

RECOMMENDATION

The pertinent military records of the Department of the Air Force relating to the APPLICANT be corrected to show the award of the Air Force Commendation Medal with the inclusive dates from 27 Dec 77 to 7 Jun 81.

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-2022-00291 in Executive Session on 5 Dec 23:

Work-Product, Panel Chair
Work-Product, Panel Member
Work-Product, Panel Member

All members voted to correct the record. The panel considered the following:

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Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 10 Dec 20.

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

Exhibit C: Advisory opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 28 Dec 22.

Exhibit D: Notification of advisory, SAF/MRBC to applicant, dated DD MMM YY.

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.

8/4/2025

X

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Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR

Signed by: USAF