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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2021-03562

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COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

His DD Form 214, *Certificate Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, be updated to reflect award of the Air Force Commendation Medal (AFCM).

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

On 5 Jul 95, the applicant separated from active duty, and recently discovered that his AFCM was not listed on his DD Form 214. On 16 Aug 95, after he was separated from active service, the applicant was presented with the AFCM for his service, and attached copies of the certificate, and the accompanying citation.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is an honorably discharged Air Force major (O-4).

On 5 Jul 95, according to DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, provided by the applicant, he separated after four years of active service.

On 16 Aug 95, according to AF Form 2224, *The Air Force Commendation Medal*, provided by the applicant, he was awarded the medal for meritorious service from 28 Jul 91 to 5 Jul 95.

For more information, see the applicant's submission at Exhibit A and the advisory at Exhibit B.

APPLICABLE AUTHORITY/GUIDANCE

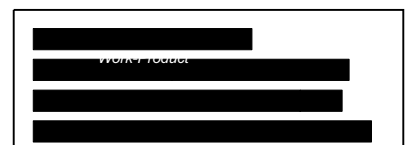
IAW AFMAN 36-2806, 10 June 2019, *Awards and Memorialization Program*

A2.14. Air Force Commendation Medal (AFCM). The medal was established by SECAF, 24 March 1958 and announced in Department of the Air Force General Orders No. 16, 28 March 1958. The medal is awarded to any Service member, or to any member of the armed forces of a friendly foreign nation, who has distinguished himself or herself by meritorious achievement or service, valor or heroism.

A2.14.1. Eligibility.

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A2.14.1.1. The medal is awarded to U.S. and foreign military personnel in the grade of O-6 and below. Do not award to U.S. and foreign general or flag officer grades (O-7 and above).

A2.14.1.2. Awarded for achievement, service, or heroism that does not rise to the level of the Bronze Star Medal.

A2.14.1.4. The medal may also be awarded for sustained meritorious performance by crewmembers.

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

AFPC/DP3SP, recommends granting the application. The applicant is requesting to be awarded AFCM and submitted the certificate and the citation to accompany the AFCM as evidence. However, the documents were not located within the official military personnel folder and absent the special order administrative relief is not possible. Based on documentation provided by the applicant and analysis of the facts, there is evidence of an error or injustice on the part of the Air Force.

The complete advisory opinion is at Exhibit B.

APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATION

The Board sent a copy of the advisory opinion to the applicant on 20 Apr 23 for comment (Exhibit C), 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. The Board concurs with the rationale and recommendation of AFPC/DP3SP and finds a preponderance of the evidence substantiates the applicant's contentions. The Board found that the signed AFCM certificate for meritorious service from 28 Jul 91 to 5 Jul 95 and the citation with gold seal that were provided by the applicant are sufficient evidence to grant the applicant's request to update his DD Form 214. 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 APPLICANT be corrected to show that:

a) He was awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal for Meritorious Service from 28 July 1991 through 5 July 1995.

b) His DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, with inclusive dates 6 July 1991 through 5 July 1995, in Items 13, *Decoration, Medals, Badges, Citations, and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized*, be amended to reflect award of the Air Force Commendation Medal.

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-2021-03562 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:

- Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 15 Oct 21.
- Exhibit B: Advisory opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 23 Feb 23.
- Exhibit C: Notification of advisory, SAF/MRBC to applicant, dated 20 Apr 23.

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.

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