

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

**DOCKET NUMBER:** BC-2021-03857

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

**COUNSEL:** NONE

**HEARING REQUESTED:** YES

### APPLICANT'S REQUEST

Correct her official military record to reflect her participation in the four-year Medical Corps Health Professions Scholarship Program (MCHPSP) vice the three-year MCHPSP.

### APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

She is a first-year medical student who sought the four-year Health Professions Scholarship Program. She successfully completed all the necessary components of the application and was awarded the four-year HPSP in Jun 21. From this date on, she and the Air Force were awaiting her scrolling from Congress, as only after the scrolling was complete would she be allowed to commission in the Air Force as a second lieutenant (O-1). Her scroll was not signed by Congress until 28 Sep 21 and not sent by Congress to the Air Force recruiting office until 1 Oct 21. In this sequence of events, her scroll was not available until after the 2021 fiscal year had passed and she was unable to commission with the four-year HPSP.

She has exhausted her personal efforts to rectify this issue, to include a congressional inquiry performed by the office of her district congressman. She also provided a copy of the email her recruiter sent to his commander regarding this issue. She applied for the HPSP because she wished to serve her country as a physician. She diligently took all the steps necessary to be awarded the four-year scholarship, and was in fact awarded the scholarship; however, due to an administrative oversight, she is being denied a year of military service.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

### STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is a currently serving Air Force Reserve second lieutenant.

On 21 Jun 21, according to Scroll ID 2389, provided as attachment to AFRS/RSOCM advisory, the applicant's scroll was created. Scroll ID 2389 details the routing and processing dates through approval by the Office of the Secretary of Defense on 28 Sep 21.

On 31 Mar 22, according to Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Armed Forces Service Agreement Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program (AFHPSP), the applicant acknowledged that in return for up to three academic years of sponsorship in the AFHPSP, she would serve three years, on extended active duty and serve five years in the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR), unless it was mutually agreed that a portion of service in the IRR would be served on active duty or in the Selective Reserve.

On 31 Mar 22, according to AF Form 133, *Oath of Office (Military Personnel)*, the applicant was commissioned as a Reserve of the Air Force, in the rank of second lieutenant.

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

### **APPLICABLE AUTHORITY**

Department of the Air Force Manual (DAFMAN) 36-2032, *Military Recruiting and Accessions*, Table 5.12., *Nomination Processing Timelines (Minimum Timeline in days)*:

Rank	Commission Type	Nomination Source	HAF	SAF	OSD	POTUS/Senate
Lieutenant Colonel and below	Reserve	30	30	30	30	NA

### **AIR FORCE EVALUATION**

AFRS/RSOCM recommends denying the application. Based on the documentation provided by the applicant and analysis of the facts, there is no evidence of an error or injustice in the recruiting process. The applicant discussed Air Force opportunities and the four-year MCHPSP with her recruiter on 14 Jun 21. Following this discussion, she decided to proceed with the MCHPSP application. All applicants for active duty healthcare positions must be scrolled, with the applicant requiring a reserve scroll submission due to the MCHPSP. The scroll submission began on 21 Jun 21; however, submitting a scroll that late in the fiscal year is always risky as the already lengthy congressional approval process is further delayed due to elected leaders not being in session during the summer. All processes, procedures, and required timelines were followed in accordance with DAFMAN 36-2032.

The applicant's scroll was approved at the Office of the Secretary of Defense on 28 Sep 21, and the Air Force Recruiting Service (AFRS) was notified via the system of record on 1 Oct 21. As the applicant could not be commissioned by 30 Sep 21 in the fiscal year, she was selected for the MCHPSP and her selection status was cancelled.

AFRS personnel handled the applicant's commissioning package in the manner they should have and routed the scroll nomination as quickly as possible. The delay was due to normal routing of the officer nomination process; however, due to the time of year the applicant started the process, it left no room to complete her commissioning in the fiscal year she was selected.

The applicant chose to re-start the process the following fiscal year for the three-year MCHPSP, since she had already begun her medical school. She was again selected, and as her scroll was already approved, the applicant proceeded with her commissioning and was sworn in as an officer on 31 Mar 22. At that time, the applicant was aware she missed a year of medical school coverage, as is validated by the contract she signed on 31 Mar 22, reflecting her commitment of a year-for-year active duty service commitment of three years active duty and five years IRR. The applicant acknowledged this when she commissioned and signed the documents for the Air Reserve Personnel Center to begin her Air Force Institute of Technology sponsored program of three years.

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 30 Mar 23 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 AFRS/RSOCM and finds a preponderance of the evidence does not substantiate the applicant's contentions. The scrolling process timelines were in accordance with DAFMAN 36-2032. Further, despite the four-year program no longer being available to her, the applicant voluntarily elected to continue with her commissioning and participate in the three-year scholarship program. Therefore, the Board recommends against correcting the applicant's records.
4. The applicant has not shown a personal appearance, with or without counsel, would materially add to the Board's understanding of the issues involved.

## **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 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-2021-03857 in Executive Session on 20 Apr 23:

, Panel Chair  
, 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 2 Dec 21.  
Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.  
Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFRS/RSOCM, w/atchs, dated 21 Mar 23.  
Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 30 Mar 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.

**X**

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Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR