



Work-Product

# UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

**DOCKET NUMBER:** BC-2021-03904

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**COUNSEL:** NONE

**HEARING REQUESTED:** NO

### APPLICANT'S REQUEST

His DD Form 214, *Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge, Item 24, Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized* be corrected to reflect award of the following:

1. Presidential Unit Citation (PUC) (**Administratively Corrected**).
2. Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon (SAEMR).

### APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

He was assigned to the [redacted] from 5 May 69 through 2 May 70.

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 15 Nov 67.

On 4 Jun 71, according to the applicant's DD Form 214, he was released from the Regular Air Force and transferred to the Ready Reserve. He was credited with 3 years, 6 months, and 20 days of active service. Item 24, *Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized* reflects the following awards: National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

On 14 Nov 73, according to Reserve Order [redacted] the applicant was honorably discharged from the Air Force Reserve (AFR).

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 applicants request for award of the SAEMR. Based on the documentation presented and review of the official record, there is no documentation such as the AF Form 522, *USAF Ground Weapons Training Data* or a Special Order to verify the applicant qualified as "expert" with either the M-16 or issued handgun.

Notwithstanding the above, they were able to verify award of the Presidential Unit Citation. Accordingly, the applicant's record will be administratively corrected.

Per Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 36-2806, *Awards and Memorialization Program*, section A14.33. The SAEMR was established by Secretary of the Air Force on 28 Aug 62 and made effective on 1 Jan 63. The ribbon is awarded to regular Air Force, Air National Guard and AFR members, who, after 1 Jan 63, qualify as "Expert" with either the M-16 rifle (to include the M-4 and GAU-5) or an issued handgun on the Air Force qualification course, an appropriate orientation course prescribed in other Air Force Instructions, other Military Services' qualification course, or who satisfactorily complete the Combat Rifle Program. Additionally, per section A14.33.3, an AF Form 522, or a letter from the small arms marksmanship monitor is used as the source document for this award.

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 8 May 23 for comment (Exhibit D), but has received no response.

## **FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION**

1. The application was not 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 applicants' contentions. The Board also notes the applicant did not file the application within three years of discovering the alleged error or injustice, as required by Section 1552 of Title 10, United States Code, and Department of the Air Force Instruction 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*. While the applicant asserts a date of discovery within the three-year limit, the Board does not find it in the interest of justice to waive the three-year filing requirement. Therefore, with the exception

of the aforementioned administrative correction, the Board finds the application untimely and recommends against correcting the applicant's records.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Board recommends informing the applicant the application was not timely filed; it would not be in the interest of justice to excuse the delay; 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-2021-03904 in Executive Session on 25 Aug 23:

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

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

- Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 20 Oct 21.
- Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 8 Feb 23.
- Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 8 May 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.

3/26/2024

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Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR

Signed by: Work-Product