

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2022-00221

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: YES

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

Correct his DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, to reflect:

1. Address in Block 19a, *Mailing Address After Separation*, and Block 19b, *Nearest Relative*: XXXXXXXXXXXXX
2. Block 20, *Member Requests Copy 6 Be Sent to XX Office of Veterans Affairs*

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

He was separating at the end of his contract with an uncertain amount of terminal leave during the peak COVID time. The measures and precautions in place hindered this process. First, he was potentially not allowed on the Air Force base because he was assigned to a geographically separated unit. He eventually was placed on the base access list, but was not initially. Either things took very long to complete or they were rushed. He did not receive a final copy of his DD Form 214 until after he separated. Manpower was tight, so appointments were hard to come by.

This is preventing him from getting state tuition assistance in the state where he grew up. He paid state income tax for most of his enlistment, only switching to another state when he had a permanent change of station; however, he planned to move back to his home state.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is an honorably discharged Air Force staff sergeant (E-5).

On 2 Dec 20, according to AF Form 100, *Request and Authorization for Separation*, Block 6. *Future Mailing Address*, the applicant's post-separation mailing address was XXXXXXXXXXXX.

On 10 Dec 20, according to DD Form 93, *Record of Emergency Data*, the applicant's father's address was XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX.

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

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

AFPC/DP2SSR recommends denying the application. The addresses indicated in Block 19a and 19b of the DD Form 214 is for administrative purposes only and has no effect on benefits or entitlements. It is not a document to be used as proof of residency for any local or state agency. This information, as of the date of separation, is only used in the event the service needs to contact the member prior to separation. Once separation or retirement has consummated, the service will not be contacting the service member or nearest relative.

Veterans or retirees should provide their address changes with their respective Veterans Affairs (VA) or Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System office, as the DD Form 214 is not used for address validation due to potential for multiple changes to the member's data after separation. Additionally, DD Form 214 data is now transmitted electronically to state VA offices, and no longer mailed to specific states; therefore, DP2SSR does not make changes to address information or VA location upon consummation of separation from the service.

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 May 22 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 the victim of an error or injustice. While the Board notes the recommendation of AFPC/DP2SSR against correcting the record, the Board finds a preponderance of the evidence substantiates the applicant's contentions. Notwithstanding DP2SSR's position regarding the purpose of this information, the data was erroneous when first published and should be corrected. Therefore, the Board recommends correcting the applicant's records as indicated below.
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 pertinent military records of the Department of the Air Force relating to APPLICANT be corrected to show his DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, issued in conjunction with his 6 February 2021 discharge, be amended to reflect:

- a. Block 19a. *Mailing Address After Separation*, "XXXXXXXX" vice "XXXXXXXX"
- b. Block 19b. *Nearest Relative*, "XXXXXXXXXXXX" vice "XXXXXXXXXXXX"
- c. Block 20. *Member Requests Copy 6 Be Sent to* "XX" vice "XX" *Office of Veterans Affairs*

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-2022-00221 in Executive Session on 30 Aug 22:

, Chair, AFBCR
, Panel Member
, Panel Member

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

Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atch, dated 21 Dec 21.
Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
Exhibit C: Advisory opinion, AFPC/DP2SSR, dated 9 May 22.
Exhibit D: Notification of advisory, SAF/MRBC to applicant, dated 25 May 22.

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