



Work-Product

**UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS**

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

Work-Product

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2022-02033

COUNSEL: Work-Product

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

His DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, dated 30 Apr 92, be corrected to reflect award of the Meritorious Service Medal (MSM).

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

He was awarded the MSM by the Commander, 18th Wing, for meritorious service from 27 Oct 88 to 30 Apr 92. This award is not reflected on his DD Form 214.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is a retired Air Force master sergeant (E-7).

On 30 Apr 92, according to DD Form 214, the applicant was honorably retired and credited with 22 years, 8 months, and 11 days of active service, to include 7 years, 10 months, and 16 days of Foreign Service. Block 13, *Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized* reflects the following: Air Force Commendation Medal w/three Devices, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award w/Valor Device and five Devices, Air Force Organizational Excellence Award, Air Force Good Conduct Medal w/six Devices, National Defense Service Medal w/one Device, Vietnam Service Medal w/three Devices, Air Force Overseas Short Tour Ribbon w/one Device, Air Force Overseas Long Tour Ribbon w/two Devices, Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon w/one Device, Air Force Training Ribbon, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross w/Device, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

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

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Controlled by: SAF/MRB
CUI Categories: Work-Product
Limited Dissemination Control: N/A
POC: SAF.MRBC.Workflow@us.af.mil

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

AFPC/DP3SP recommends denying the application. Based on documentation presented and review of the applicant’s official record, award of the MSM is unable to be verified. According to Department of the Air Force Manual (DAFMAN) 36-2806, *Awards and Decorations Program*, paragraph A.2.11, the Meritorious Service Medal was authorized by EO 1148, 16 Jan 69, and is awarded to any service member, or to any member of the armed forces of a friendly nation, who has distinguished himself, or herself by outstanding meritorious achievement.

Although the applicant provided a signed/sealed certificate, which appears to be authentic, there was no Special Order or citation documentation within his records or provided by the applicant to verify a recommendation for or the award of the MSM.

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 20 Apr 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 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. Specifically, the Board notes the applicant provided a signed/sealed certificate for award of the MSM with a Given Under My Hand date, which corresponds to the applicant’s date of separation. Therefore, the Board finds it is more likely than not to be an authentic copy. 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 his DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, dated 30 Apr 92, Item 13, *Decoration, Medals, Badges, Citations, and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized*, be amended to reflect award of the Meritorious Service 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-2022-02033 in Executive Session on 9 Jan 24:

- 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 30 Jun 22.

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

Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 26 Mar 23.

Exhibit D: 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.

4/28/2024

X

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Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR

Signed by: *Work-Product*

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