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

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2022-02633

Work-Product

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

His narrative reason for separation, corresponding separation code, and reentry code be changed based on the repeal of Title 10, United States Code, Section 654 (10 U.S.C. § 654).

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

His discharge was unjust because the sole reason was his admission to being a homosexual or bisexual. There were no aggravating factors alleged in his discharge paperwork. He does not want any remarks on his DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, to indicate a correction was made; sexual orientation is a personal and private matter. Having "Admitted Homosexual" on his DD Form 214 has prevented him from accessing veteran's services such as a home loan.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is a former Air Force senior airman (E-4).

On 18 Jun 86, the applicant's commander notified him he was recommending his discharge from the Air Force, under the provisions of AFR 39-10, *Administrative Separation of Airmen*, paragraph 5-35a, for homosexual activity.

On 1 Jul 86, the Deputy Staff Judge Advocate found the discharge action legally sufficient.

On 11 Jul 86, the applicant received an honorable discharge. His separation code and corresponding narrative reason for separation is HRB, *Admitted Homosexual or Bisexual*, and his reentry code is 2C, *Involuntarily separated with an honorable discharge; or entry level separation without characterization of service*. He was credited with 3 years, 11 months, and 8 days of total active service.

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

APPLICABLE AUTHORITY/GUIDANCE

On 20 Sep 11, with the repeal of the law commonly known as "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (DADT), 10 U.S.C. § 654, the Department of Defense (DoD) issued supplemental policy guidance on

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

correcting military records of former service members who had been discharged under that law or a precursor. The guidance applied to the following types of requests: changing the narrative reason for a discharge; re-characterizing service as honorable; changing a reentry code to one allowing immediate eligibility to reenter service. The guidance directed that such requests should normally be granted when both of the following conditions are true: (1) the original discharge was based solely on DADT or a similar policy in place prior to enactment of DADT; and (2) there were no aggravating factors in the record, such as misconduct. For meritorious cases, the guidance further directed the use of “Secretarial Authority” as the new narrative reason for separation, with Separation Program Designator code “JFF” and reentry code “1J.” Finally, the guidance noted that while each request must be evaluated individually, an honorable or under honorable conditions (general) discharge should normally be considered to indicate the absence of aggravating factors.

The complete DoD policy is at Exhibit C.

APPLICANT’S REVIEW OF APPLICABLE AUTHORITY/GUIDANCE

The Board sent a copy of the DoD policy to the applicant on 9 Nov 22, for comment (Exhibit D), 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 injustice. While the Board finds no error in the original discharge process, the Board recommends relief based on the repeal of 10 U.S.C. § 654. The absence of aggravating factors in the applicant’s record meets the criteria of the DoD policy on records correction following the repeal of DADT. Therefore, the Board recommends correcting the applicant’s record 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 issued on 11 Jul 86, be amended to reflect a separation code and corresponding narrative reason for separation of JFF, *Secretarial Authority*, and a reentry code of 1J.

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-2022-02633 in Executive Session on 4 May 23:

Work-Product, Chair, AFBCMR
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 25 Sep 22.
- Exhibit B: Documentary Evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.

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Exhibit C: DoD Policy on Correcting Military Records after Repeal of DADT, 20 Sep 11.
Exhibit D: Notification of DoD Policy, SAF/MRBC to applicant, dated 9 Nov 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.

8/11/2023

Work-Product

Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR

Signed by: *Work-Product*

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