



**CUI//SP-MIL/SP-PRVCY**

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

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**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

**DOCKET NUMBER:** BC-2022-02673

*Work-Product*

**COUNSEL:** NONE

*Work-Product*

**HEARING REQUESTED:** NO

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**APPLICANT'S REQUEST**

Her "Uncharacterized" Entry Level Separation (ELS) be corrected to general (under honorable conditions).

**APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS**

She would like her separation of service upgraded to a medically related discharge due to a recent change in the separation of service.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

**STATEMENT OF FACTS**

The applicant is a former Air Force airman basic (E-1).

On 23 Jun 01, DD Form 2808, *Report of Medical Examination*, Block 74a, *Examinee/Applicant*, indicates the applicant is qualified for service in service processing for (SPF) code "DFR" which denotes Regular Air Force.

On 10 Apr 02, the applicant received an uncharacterized ELS. Her narrative reason for separation is "Failed Medical/Physical Procurement Standards" and she was credited with 1 month and 29 days of total active service.

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

**APPLICABLE AUTHORITY/GUIDANCE**

Department of the Air Force Instruction (DAFI) 36-3211, *Military Separations*, describes the authorized service characterizations.

**AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2022-02673  
CUI//SP-MIL/SP-PRVCY**

Controlled by: SAF/MRB  
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POC: [SAF.MRBC.Workflow@us.af.mil](mailto:SAF.MRBC.Workflow@us.af.mil)

## **CUI//SP-MIL/SP-PRVCY**

**Honorable.** The quality of the airman's service generally has met Air Force standards of acceptable conduct and performance of duty or when a member's service is otherwise so meritorious that any other characterization would be inappropriate.

**Under Honorable Conditions (General).** If an airman's service has been honest and faithful, this characterization is warranted when significant negative aspects of the airman's conduct or performance of duty outweigh positive aspects of the airman's military record.

**Under Other than Honorable Conditions.** When basing the reason for separation on a pattern of behavior or one or more acts or omissions that constitute a significant departure from the conduct expected of airmen. The member must have an opportunity for a hearing by an administrative discharge board or request discharge in lieu of trial by court-martial.

**Entry Level Separation.** Airmen are in entry level status during the first 180 days of continuous active military service or the first 180 days of continuous active military service after a break of more than 92 days of active service. Determine the member's status by the date of notification; thus, if the member is in entry level status when initiating the separation action, describe it as an entry level separation unless:

- A service characterization of under other than honorable conditions is authorized under the reason for discharge and is warranted by the circumstances of the case; or
- The Secretary of the Air Force determines, on a case-by-case basis, that characterization as honorable is clearly warranted by unusual circumstances of personal conduct and performance of military duty.

### **AIR FORCE EVALUATION**

AFPC/DP2SSR recommends denying the application finding no evidence of an error or injustice. Airmen are in entry level status during the first 180 days of continuous active military service. The Department of Defense (DoD) determined if a member served less than 180 days continuous active service, it would be unfair to the member and the service to characterize their limited 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 4 Nov 22 for comment (Exhibit D) but has received no response.

### **ADDITIONAL AIR FORCE EVALUATION**

The AFBCMR Medical Advisor recommends denying the application. The preponderance of evidence did not show any sort of a disqualifying medical condition throughout her brief period of military service to substantiate a medically related separation. Other than the sole consultation to

**CUI//SP-MIL/SP-PRVCY**

urology, medical records during her reported time in service were not available for review. Her words as to the reason to make her requested action to this Board of “Due to recent change in separation of service to medically related discharge” makes no comprehensive interpretive sense from what she submitted and was reviewed electronically. The burden of proof is placed on the applicant to submit accurate and true evidence to support their request. The evidence that was submitted coupled with DoD held medical records did not reveal any focus to a medically related discharge.

As to her characterization of service, the Medical Consultant opines the Air Force followed the appropriate use of established policies for the separation of members, who within the first 180 days of service, demonstrate the inability to complete Basic Military Training (BMT). Unless warranting a referral through the Disability Evaluation System (DES) for completion of a Medical Evaluation Board (MEB) and subsequent fitness and rating determination by a Physical Evaluation Board (PEB), or other basis for discharge, then a service member is released as an ELS, with an “uncharacterized” characterization of service. The definition of ELS appears in AFI 36-3208, *Military Separations*, paragraph A3.5, which states this type of separation is given only when the person is in his or her first 180 days of continuous active military service or the first 180 days of continuous active military service after a break of more than 92 days of active service. This is a discharge that does not attempt to characterize the type of service as either good or bad, but simply denotes the service member’s short time in uniform. This brief time constraint reflects an inadequate period to judge an individual’s work characteristics appropriately and fairly because in the first few months of service, a new enlistee’s duties revolve around training; both BMT and technical school, prior to performing their specialized work.

The complete advisory opinion is at Exhibit E.

**APPLICANT’S REVIEW OF ADDITIONAL AIR FORCE EVALUATION**

The Board sent a copy of the advisory opinion to the applicant on 5 Apr 23 for comment (Exhibit F), 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 recommendations of AFPC/DP2SSR and the AFBCMR Medical Advisor and finds a preponderance of the evidence does not substantiate the applicant’s contentions. The characterization of the applicant’s service was deemed uncharacterized as the applicant did not complete the entry level status of 180 days of active service as detailed in AFI 36-3208, *Administrative Separation of Airmen*. The Board notes the applicant’s narrative reason for separation of failed medical/physical procurement standards, but finds no evidence of a disqualifying medical condition throughout her brief period of military service to support the applicant’s request for a medical separation. Per Department of the Air Force

Instruction (DAFI) 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*, paragraph 3.10.5, applicants have the burden of proof for providing evidence in support of their claim. Additionally, the Board 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)*. The Board does not find it in the interest of justice to waive the three-year filing requirement. Therefore, 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 DAFI 36-2603, paragraph 2.1, considered Docket Number BC-2022-02673 in Executive Session on 21 Jun 23:

*Work-Product* Panel Chair  
Panel Member  
*Work-Product* Panel Member

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

- Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, dated 25 Aug 22.
- Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP2SSR, no date.
- Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 4 Nov 22.
- Exhibit E: Advisory Opinion, AFBCMR Medical Advisor, dated 2 Apr 23.
- Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 5 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.

1/31/2024

*Work-Product*

Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR  
Signed by: *Work-Product*