



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

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2022-02711

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: YES

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

He be reimbursed for the cost of storing his privately owned vehicle (POV) during his one year overseas tour.

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

On 13 Jul 21, he was provided a letter by the installation transportation officer authorizing storage of his POV for his permanent change of station (PCS) assignment from [REDACTED] to [REDACTED] Work-Product. He followed the instructions provided by the personal property shipping office (PPSO) and drove his vehicle to the vehicle processing center (VPC) in [REDACTED] Work-Product the same day as he was scheduled to fly out enroute to his assignment. Upon arrival at the VPC, he was advised he was not eligible to store his vehicle. They also would not ship his vehicle because regulations precluded shipping any vehicles with matte paint or rust.

He tried to contact the PPSO on that day for guidance but no one answered the phone or emails. Since he was scheduled to fly out that same day, he ended up storing the vehicle out of pocket. He paid \$161.29 a month from Jul 21 to Sep 22 when he returned stateside. He contacted the PPSO while on his short tour and upon return for reimbursement. He was advised that Personal Property Activity Headquarters (PPA HQ) stated that although he was provided a letter for storage, he was not entitled to reimbursement because the vehicle was painted matte and was not the original color. He was advised to file an AFBCMR application.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

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

The applicant provides a memorandum from the Installation Transportation Officer dated 13 Jul 21 stating he was authorized storage of one POV in connection with his PCS from [REDACTED] to [REDACTED] Work-Product per Special Order dated 1 Jul 21. Per the Joint Travel Regulation (JTR) paragraph 0532-A, the applicant was authorized to store a POV at the VPC and storage was more advantageous to the government in lieu of shipment. The applicant was instructed to present the letter of authorization and seven copies of orders to the VPC.

On 23 Jul 21, the applicant presented at the VPC for storage of his POV. The VPC sent an email to the Transportation Command (TRANSCOM) asking if the applicant was eligible to store his vehicle, a 1990 Fleetwood Cadillac with matte paint and a little rust.

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

In an email dated 23 Jul 21, PPA HQ informed TRANSCOM and the VPC, AFI 24-602, Volume 4, *Personal Property Moving and Storage*, stated restrictions imposed by foreign countries applied to all United States POV manufacturers. Storage requests for vehicles that met host nation entry requirements but were subsequently modified or customized by the owner and were no longer in compliance would not be approved for storage. Due to matte paint and rust, the applicant was not allowed to ship or store his vehicle.

In an email dated 2 Dec 21, his PPSO informed the applicant to keep track of his payments and that he could file for reimbursement upon return to his new duty location.

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

APPLICABLE AUTHORITY/GUIDANCE

JTR, paragraph 0532(A) POV Storage, Storage for one POV may be authorized if a service member is ordered to a foreign or non-foreign permanent duty station (PDS) outside the continental United States (OCONUS) where POV transportation is not permitted due to the country or the extensive modification of the POV required as a condition of entry.

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

PPA HQ/LHO recommends denial. There was an error in the orders authorizing POV storage but not an error in guidance ultimately provided by PPA HQ. The PPSO at his base erroneously provided a storage letter.

PPA HQ was contacted by the VPC when the applicant presented to request POV storage. The VPC was advised that storage at government expense was not authorized. The applicant had an entitlement to ship his POV; however due to aftermarket adjustments (matte painting of the POV), the POV was prohibited import to [REDACTED] *Work-Product*. Because the VPC correctly did not authorize POV storage at government expense, the applicant personally procured storage at his expense.

AFI 24-602, Volume 4, paragraph 7.12.2.3 states the intent of POV shipment and storage is provided for a member's primary means of transportation at the PDS. It is not an automatic allowance used to transport or store vintage, historic, classic, restored, collector or customized vehicles. Paragraph 7.12.2.4 further advised restrictions imposed by foreign countries applies to all United States POVs.

The complete advisory opinion, with attachments, is at Exhibit C.

APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATION

The Board sent a copy of the advisory opinion to the applicant on 9 Nov 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.

[REDACTED]

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 PPA HQ/LHO against correcting the record, the Board finds a preponderance of the evidence substantiates the applicant's contentions. The Board finds the 13 Jul 21 memorandum from the Installation Transportation Officer authorizing the applicant to store his POV at government expense in conjunction with his PCS to [REDACTED] sufficient to conclude the applicant was the victim of an error and an injustice. In this respect, the applicant had no reason to believe he would not be allowed to store his car upon arrival at the VPC because his car had matte paint and rust. Due to the applicant's scheduled flight and inability to contact his TMO prior to his departure, the applicant had no choice but to store the vehicle at his own cost. Furthermore, it appears he was instructed to file a claim for reimbursement upon his return. 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 he was approved for storage of one POV in connection with his PCS from [REDACTED] to [REDACTED] BH per Special Order Number [REDACTED] dated 1 Jul 21 in accordance with JTR, paragraph 0532-A. He be reimbursed for the cost of storage of his POV.

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-2022-02711 in Executive Session on 7 Mar 23:

[REDACTED], Panel Chair
[REDACTED] Panel Member
[REDACTED] Panel Member

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

- Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 7 Oct 21.
- Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: Advisory opinion, PPA HQ/LHO, w/atchs, dated 2 Nov 22.
- Exhibit D: Notification of advisory, 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.

7/3/2025

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]