

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

Work-Product

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**IN THE MATTER OF:****DOCKET NUMBER:** BC-2022-03268

Work-Product

COUNSEL: Work-Product**HEARING REQUESTED:** NO

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APPLICANT'S REQUEST

His DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, for the period 14 Jan 20 through 26 Aug 21, be amended in Section 28, *Narrative Reason for Separation*, to reflect "Force Shaping (Board Selected)," instead of "Interdepartmental Transfer."

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

The narrative reason for separation "Force Shaping (Board Selected)" meets the requirement of 5 U.S.C. § 8521 (a)(1)(B)(ii)(1) which states "the individual was discharged or released before completing such term of active service for the convenience of the Government under an early release program," which in his case was the PALACE CHASE program.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is an Air National Guard airman first class (E-3).

On 9 Apr 21, according to AF IMT 1288, *Application for Ready Reserve Assignment*, under the heading of *FY21 FM Expanded PALACE CHASE DOS: 26 Aug 21*, the applicant, an active duty Airman, applied for an assignment to the Air National Guard under the FY 21 Force Management Expanded PALACE CHASE program.

On 7 May 21, according to AF Form 2631, *PALACE CHASE Statement of Understanding*, under the heading of *FY21 FM Expanded PALACE CHASE DOS: 26 Aug 21*, the applicant acknowledged he had "been counseled regarding his plans to transfer from active duty in the United States Air Force to a position in the Selected Reserve of the Air Force under the provisions of the PALACE CHASE program."

On 24 Jun 21, Special Order Work-Product (AF IMT 100, *Request and Authorization for Separation*), states the applicant's type of separation is "Release from Active Duty/Transfers to RESAF," with a separation code of "MGR," and "this is a PALACE CHASE Separation, report to your gaining unit."

On 26 Aug 21, according to his DD Form 214, the applicant was released from active duty with a separation code and corresponding narrative reason for separation of MGR, *Interdepartmental Transfer*. He was credited with 1 year, 7 months, and 13 days of active service. Item 18, *Remarks*, indicates "Member has not completed first full term of service."

CUI//SP-MIL/SP-PRVCY

On 27 Aug 21, according to DD Form 4, *Enlistment/Reenlistment Document – Armed Forces of the United States*, the applicant enlisted in the Air National Guard of the United States for a period of 9 years, 6 months, and 1 week in the pay grade of E-3, of which 5 years, 11 months, and 1 week is considered an Active Duty Obligation, and 3 years and 7 months will be served in the Reserve Component of which he enlisted.

APPLICABLE AUTHORITY/GUIDANCE

Air Force Instruction (AFI) 36-3208, *Administrative Separation of Airmen*, 9 Jul 04 (Incorporating through Change 7, 2 Jul 13), paragraph 2.14, *Service with an ANGUS or USAFR Unit (PALACE CHASE)*. Airmen may ask for separation from the active military service to serve with an ANGUS or a USAFR unit. AFI 36-3205, *Reserve Forces Procurement PALACE CHASE*, (formerly AFR 35-46 and 35-47) gives the eligibility criteria and procedures for selection. Separate airmen whose applications are approved under this provision. Airmen may use AF Form 1288, 3d indorsement, to apply for PALACE CHASE separation.

PSDM 21-04, 14 Jan 21 (amended 14 May 21), *FY 21 Enlisted Voluntary Force Management (FM) Programs*, Attachment 3, *Enlisted FY21 Expanded PALACE CHASE Program Guidance*. The FY21 Expanded PALACE CHASE Program provides for Airmen in selected Air Force specialties to facilitate transfer from active military service to an Air Reserve Component position. Transfer to the Air Reserve Component results in a 1-for-1 (not less than 1 year or greater than 6 years) commitment.

SPD Matrix 2021, effective 1 Jan 22 (provided by HQ AFPC/DP3): *MGR, Intradepartmental Transfer*. Service (enlisted) member initiated release/transfer from one Service component status to another in the same Service component

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

AFPC/DPMSR recommends denying the request. Based on review of the applicant’s request and his Military Human Resource Record, there is no error or injustice with his discharge process. The applicant applied for separation under the FY21 Expanded PALACE CHASE Program that was offered during the FY21 Enlisted Voluntary Force Management Program. This program provided Airmen, in selected Air Force Specialty Codes to facilitate transfer from active duty to an Air Reserve Component (Interdepartmental Transfer). Airmen who applied for and were approved under the FY21 Expanded PALACE CHASE Program were given the narrative reason for separation of “Interdepartmental Transfer” with the corresponding separation code “MGR.”

The FY21 Enlisted Voluntary Force Management Programs did not include a Force Shaping Board where individuals would be selected for discharge if the Air Force failed to meet its end strength quotas. As such, all separations were voluntary. Therefore, the separation code and corresponding separation code on the applicant’s DD Form 214 is correct.

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 29 Dec 22 for comment (Exhibit D), and the applicant replied on 17 Jan 23. In his response, the applicant reiterates his narrative reason for separation should be changed to “Force Shaping (Board Selected)” and in support he provides an article by the Air Force Recruiting Service (AFRS) Public Affairs office, dated 1 Feb 21, which details how the Department of the Air Force implemented several voluntary officer and

enlisted force management programs for FY21. Included was an expanded PALACE CHASE program, which allows Regular Air Force members who hold specific Air Force Specialty Codes and rank to request an early separation and transition into the Reserve or Guard to finish the remainder of their contract.

The applicant's complete response is at Exhibit E.

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 not the victim of an error or injustice. The FY21 Enlisted Voluntary Force Management Program did not include a Force Shaping Board; as such, all separations under this program were voluntary. The applicant voluntarily applied for an interdepartmental transfer from the Regular Air Force to the Air National Guard under the FY21 Expanded PALACE CHASE Program; therefore, the separation code and corresponding narrative reason for separation on his DD Form 214 correctly reflects MGR, *Interdepartmental Transfer*. Accordingly, the Board concurs with the rationale and recommendation of AFPC/DPMSSR and finds a preponderance of the evidence does not substantiate the applicant's contentions. In view of the forgoing, the Board recommends against correcting the applicant's records.

RECOMMENDATION

The Board recommends informing the applicant the evidence did not demonstrate material error or injustice, 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 Air Force Instruction (AFI) 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*, paragraph 1.5, considered Docket Number BC-2022-03268 in Executive Session on 2 Feb 23:

- Work-Product** Chair, AFBCMR
- Work-Product** Panel Member
- Work-Product** Panel Member

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

- Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 23 Dec 22.
- Exhibit B: Documentary Evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DPMSSR, dated 29 Dec 22.
- Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 29 Dec 22.
- Exhibit E: Applicant's Response, w/atch, dated 17 Jan 23.

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.

2/14/2023

X

Work-Product

Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR

Signed by: *Work-Product*