

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2023-00631

XXXXXXXXXX

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

His DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, Block 4a, *Grade, Rate or Rank* be corrected to reflect SSgt (staff sergeant/E-5) rather than SrA (senior airman/E-4).

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

During the 20E5 promotion cycle, he was selected, based off various factors, for promotion to staff sergeant (E-5). He was selected and given a line number of 13,028. According to the 2020 Increment Numbers, 12,689 and beyond were promoted in Aug 21, which was the same month he separated from the Air Force. He attempted to get this corrected at the Military Personnel Flight and Total Force Service Center levels, but they were unable to assist him.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is an honorably discharged Air Force senior airman (E-4).

On 28 Aug 21, the applicant was furnished an honorable discharge, in the grade of senior airman (E-4), with Narrative Reason for Separation of Completion of Required Active Service and credited with four years active service.

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

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

AFPC/DPMSSP recommends denying the application. Based on the documentation provided by the applicant and analysis of the facts, there is no evidence of an error or injustice.

In accordance with Air Force Instruction (AFI) 36-2502, *Enlisted Airman Promotion/Demotion Programs*, 25 Oct 19, Table 1.2. *Withholding Promotion*, Item 10, Withhold an Airman's promotion when his or her name is not removed from a select or eligibility list and the Airman is serving in the grade of SrA, selected for promotion to SSgt, and had not completed resident Airman Leadership School; serving in the grade of SSgt/TSgt, the projected promotion will be placed into withhold, if the 12-month Enlisted Professional Military Education (EMPE) enrollment expires before the promotion sequence number (PSN) consummates. The PSN will be removed if EPME is not completed by the end of the promotion cycle.

The applicant was selected for 20E5 promotion cycle with a line number of 13,028. His line number would have incremented on 1 Aug 21; however, after a review of his records/Military Personnel Data System, there was no record the applicant attended the required Professional Military Education (PME) Airman Leadership School (ALS), or that an enlisted PME waiver

was submitted on his behalf allowing him to forgo the requirement to promote to the grade of staff sergeant (E-5).

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 16 Mar 23 for comment (Exhibit D), and the applicant replied on 5 Apr 23. In his response, the applicant contended when he attempted to get scheduled for ALS, he was advised that due to COVID measures and the subsequent backlog associated with promotions that occurred prior to his date of promotion, there was no way for him to be scheduled prior to the end of 2021. In fact, he was advised there was going to be a significant delay in attending ALS because of the backlog. He also attempted to get a waiver, but unfortunately, does not believe his request ever made it to his commander's desk for review.

Because of these reasons, he felt like he should make an attempt at getting his records updated to reflect his short, but committed, four years of service to the military. Over time, he managed to become an expert 3-level at optical systems and roundness, being the only individual in his lab that knew how to operate the new automated calibration machine. He was coined by both the Third Air Force Commander and Command Chief, the XXXth Training Squadron Commander, as a Red Rope, and his Career Field Manager. He graduated from the United States Air Force National Search and Rescue School, which is currently serving him well as he continued his service in the Civil Air Patrol, and achieved numerous, consecutive, performance awards at his shop while stationed at Ramstein Air Base.

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, to include the applicant's rebuttal, the Board concludes the applicant is not the victim of an error or injustice. The Board concurs with the rationale and recommendation of AFPC/DPMSSP and finds a preponderance of the evidence does not substantiate the applicant's contentions. The applicant did not complete the required enlisted PME to promote to staff sergeant (E-5) in accordance with AFI 36-2502, nor did he receive a waiver for the requirement. Therefore, the Board recommends against correcting the applicant's records.
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 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 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-2023-00631 in Executive Session on 25 Aug 23:

- , Panel Chair
- , Panel Member
- , Panel Member

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

- Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atch, dated 16 Feb 23.
- Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DPMSSP, dated 16 Mar 23.
- Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 16 Mar 23.
- Exhibit E: Applicant’s Response, 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.

X

Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR