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

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2023-00843

Work-Product

COUNSEL: *Work-Product*

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

His date of rank (DOR) for lieutenant colonel (O-5) be backdated to reflect 1 Nov 22.

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

An administrative oversight by his Force Support Squadron (FSS), and due to no fault of his own, was the root cause that the Accelerated Promotion request submitted by his wing leadership was returned by the National Guard Bureau (NGB) for failing to meet NGB requirements and/or deadlines.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is an Air National Guard lieutenant colonel (O-5).

On 26 Oct 22, according to email traffic provided by the applicant, the FSS submitted his accelerated promotion package to Headquarters, Joint Forces-Alaska (JFHQ-AK)/A1. On the same day, JFHQ-AK/A1 returned the package with a request to resubmit using the correct checklist. Then, on 21 Feb 23, in response to an inquiry from the applicant, JFHQ-AK/A1 requested that his FSS to provide a corrected package as the one they received was incomplete, not signed by the Wing Commander (WG/CC), and was never processed/submitted to NGB.

On 16 Feb 23, according to Special Order Number *Work-Product* dated 16 Feb 23, he was extended Federal recognition and promoted ResAF to the rank of lieutenant colonel with a DOR and Promotion Effective Date of 16 Feb 23.

On 13 Mar 23, the Force Support Squadron Commander's (FSS/CC) Memorandum for Record, *Accelerated ROPMA Promotion Request of Officer <name redacted>*, dated 13 Mar 23, states that an accelerated promotion request was submitted to JFHQ-AK, which was subsequently returned for corrections and that upon completion of the corrections, the request was not re-submitted to JFHQ-AK for processing. It further states that he received Wing Commander (WG/CC) endorsement and was determined to be fully qualified, in a promotable position, with an available controlled grade for a lieutenant colonel position.

On 16 Jun 23, according to the memorandum, *Justification to approve backdate of DOR for <applicant's name>*, dated 16 Jun 23, the JFHQ-AK Adjutant General states that is both the wing's and state's intent to accelerate the applicant's promotion effective date to 1 Nov 22.

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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

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

APPLICABLE AUTHORITY/GUIDANCE

Air Force Instruction (AFI) 36-2504, *Officer Promotion, Continuation, and Selective Early Removal in the Reserve of the Air Force*, 9 Jan 03 (Chg 5, 19 Oct 07, Certified Current, 22 Jan 10, AFGM2022-01, 10 May 22):

6.5. Accelerated Promotion. An officer, on a promotion list as a result of selection for promotion by a mandatory promotion board (I/APZ or active duty selection - 10 U.S.C. Chapter 36), may be promoted at any time to fill a vacant position.

6.5.2. The commander will complete a letter requesting the accelerated promotion of a selected officer (see Attachment 5). The commander will send the letter to the officer's senior rater for endorsement. The senior rater will forward the completed letter to HQ ARPC/DPJA, who will verify eligibility and initiate the promotion order.

6.5.3. The letter requesting accelerated promotion must contain a recommended DOR. This date can be no earlier than the public release date (if the officer is in the position at that time), or the date the officer is placed in the higher graded position (after public release date).

6.5.4. The letter requesting the accelerated promotion of a selected officer must arrive at HQ ARPC/DPJA 2 business days before the proposed DOR. This allows publication of the order prior to the promotion.

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

NGB/AIPO recommends denying the request as they are unable to validate the applicant's eligibility for Accelerated Promotion. AFI 36-2504, paragraph 6.5 provides guidance on required actions and information for accelerated promotions and additionally, NGB/AIPO provides a Mandatory Checklist to support promotion action request. A complete Accelerated Promotion package requires the following items, as listed on the Mandatory Checklist, to be submitted in one package: Mandatory Checklist; Commander Recommendation Letter; last two (2) Officer Performance Reports; current Fitness report; State Promotion Order; Attachment 7, and a MilPDS or RAWS report.

The documents provided by the applicant did not include the Mandatory Checklist Attachment 7, which is used to verify that the member meets all the Accelerated Promotion requirements, to include confirming that the member is the sole incumbent in a position, and although the Commander Recommendation Letter was submitted it is missing the senior rater endorsement.

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 23 May 22 for comment (Exhibit D), and the applicant replied on 20 Jun 23, 29 Jun 23, and 6 Jul 23. His final response includes a complete Accelerated Promotion package, to include Attachment 7 and Commander Recommendation Letter signed by his senior rater/wing commander, which supports his accelerated promotion to reflect a DOR of 1 Nov 22.

The applicant's complete response is at Exhibit E.

ADDITIONAL AIR FORCE EVALUATION

NGB/A1PO now recommends granting the applicant's request. A review of the applicant's latest submission, which included a complete Accelerated Promotion package, confirms the applicant would have been eligible for accelerated promotion had the appropriate process been followed. However, due to no fault of the applicant, the package was subjected to misrouting and incomplete submissions which prevented verification of his eligibility until a complete package was finally submitted. Additionally, the Letter of Recommendation does not need a senior rater endorsement as this office was able to confirm that the applicant's wing commander is also his senior rater. Therefore, the applicant is eligible to be promoted to Lieutenant Colonel (O-5) with an effective date of rank of 1 Nov 22 through the Accelerated Promotion program.

APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF ADDITIONAL AIR FORCE EVALUATION

The Board sent a copy of the advisory opinion to the applicant on 10 Jul 23 for comment (Exhibit G), 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.
3. After reviewing all Exhibits, the Board concludes the applicant is the victim of an error or injustice. The Board concurs with the rationale and recommendation of NGB/A1PO and finds a preponderance of the evidence substantiates the applicant's contentions. Therefore, the Board recommends correcting the applicant's records as indicated below.

RECOMMENDATION

The pertinent military records of the Department of the Air Force relating to APPLICANT be corrected to show his date of rank and effective date of rank to the grade of lieutenant colonel (O-5) reflect 1 November 2022.

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-2023-00843 in Executive Session on 15 Aug 23:

<i>Work-Product</i>	Panel Chair
<i>Work-Product</i>	Panel Member
<i>Work-Product</i>	Panel Member

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

- Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 14 Mar 23.
- Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, NGB/A1PO, dated 24 Apr 23.

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Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 23 May 23.

Exhibit E: Applicant's Responses, dated 6 Jul 23.

Exhibit F: Revised Advisory Opinion, 7 Jul 23.

Exhibit G: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 10 Jul 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  0/2/2024
Work-Product

Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR

Signed by:  *Work-Product*