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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2024-01542

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COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

Her "Uncharacterized" Entry Level Separation (ELS) be upgraded to honorable.

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

Her current discharge type is for personnel who served 180 days or less. She served for a total of 15 months and should have received an honorable discharge in accordance with the Air Force regulations.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is a former Air Force airman first class (E-3).

On 16 Aug 23, the applicant's commander recommended she be discharged from the Air Force, under the provisions of Department of the Air Force Instruction (DAFI) 36-3211, *Military Separations*, paragraph 7.22.2.6 for minor disciplinary infractions. The specific reasons for the action were:

- a. On 2 Aug 23, a Letter of Reprimand (LOR) was issued for failing to go at the time prescribed to her appointed place of duty on or about 29 Jul 23.
- b. On 17 Jul 23, a LOR was issued for failing to go at the time prescribed to her appointed place of duty on or about 3 Jul 23 and on or about 9 Jul 23.
- c. On 7 Jun 23, a LOR was issued for failing to go at the time prescribed to her appointed place of duty on or about 5 Jun 23.
- d. On 29 May 23, a LOR was issued for failing to go at the time prescribed to her appointed place of duty on or about 29 May 23.

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- e. On 23 May 23, a Letter of Reprimand (LOC) was issued for failing to go at the time prescribed to her appointed place of duty on or about 23 May 23.

On 9 Oct 24, Air Force Personnel Center (AFPC), transitions discovered the base level Military Personnel Flight (MPF) did not create a DD Form 214, *Certificate of Uniformed Service*, for the applicant. The DD Form 214 was subsequently created, indicating the applicant received an uncharacterized, ELS on 7 Nov 23. Her narrative reason for separation is “Entry Level Performance and Conduct” and she was credited with 1 year, 2 months, and 9 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.

APPLICABLE AUTHORITY/GUIDANCE

DAFI 36-3211, dated 24 Jun 22 incorporating changes thru 20 Nov 23, describes the authorized service characterizations. The policy to change an ELS from 180 days, date of notification to 365 days, date of notification took effect on 23 Jun 22 per DoDI 1332.14, *Enlisted Administrative Separations*.

Honorable. The quality of the airman’s service generally has met Department of the 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.

Entry Level Separation. Airmen are in entry level status during the first 365 days of continuous active military service or the first 365 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/DPMSSR recommends denying the application. In accordance with DAFI 36-3211, airmen are in entry level status when in the first 365 days of service. This timeline is based on when the discharge action is initiated. The member was notified by the commander of the intent to discharge on 16 Aug 23, within the 365-day timeline of the member’s Total Active Military Service Date of 29 Aug 22. Based on review of the applicant’s request and the Master of Personnel Record, there is no error or injustice with the discharge processing.

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 15 Oct 24 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.
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 recommendation of AFPC/DPMSSR and finds a preponderance of the evidence does not substantiate the applicant's contentions. In accordance with DAFI 36-3211, airmen are given an ELS with uncharacterized service when they fail to complete a minimum of 365 days of continuous active military service when notified of the discharge action. The applicant enlisted on 29 Aug 22 and was notified of their commander's intent to discharge on 16 Aug 23, marking the initiation of the discharge action, which was within the 365-day timeline. Therefore, 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 DAFI 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*, paragraph 2.1, considered Docket Number BC-2024-01542 in Executive Session on 15 Jan 25:

Work-Product, Panel Chair

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, dated 24 Apr 24.

Exhibit B: Documentary Evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.

Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DPMSSR, dated 9 Oct 24.

Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 15 Oct 24.

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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.

1/23/2025

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Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR

Signed by: USAF

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