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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2024-02393

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COUNSEL: Work-Product

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

His honorable discharge be changed to "special honorable."

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

He was told he cannot get a Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) home loan because his DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, says honorable discharge, but since he was part of force shaping, it should say "special honorable discharge," and then he can get his DVA home loan.

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 24 Jun 05, the DD Form 214 indicates the applicant received an honorable discharge. His narrative reason for separation is "Miscellaneous/General Reasons" with an associated Separation Program Designator (SPD) code of "MND." He was credited with 1 year, 1 month, and 28 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.

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

AFPC/DPMSSR recommends denying the application, finding no error or injustice with the discharge process. The limited active-duty service commitment (LADSC) waiver program allowed enlisted airmen to voluntarily request to separate prior to completing specified active-duty service commitments. Approval would be based on air force specialty codes (AFSCs), health of the career field and the needs of the Air Force. Personnel who chose to separate under this program were required to do so under the miscellaneous provision with the (SPD) code assigned as "MND" in accordance with Air Force Instruction (AFI) 36-3208, *Administrative Separation of Airmen*,

AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2024-02393

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paragraph 3.15. The master personnel record revealed the applicant was a six-year enlistee who had only one year and one month of service at the time of his discharge. The remaining portion of his enlistment contract was waived so he could separate from the Air Force early. This is considered a service member-initiated discharge allowed by an established directive. The only individuals who were classified as being involuntarily separated under force shaping were individuals who met an actual force shaping board, where they were selected for discharge with a pre-established mandatory separation date. Those were the only individuals given the SPD code to denote force shaping/reduction. Furthermore, there is no such character of service as "Special Honorable Discharge." Personnel receive honorable, under honorable conditions (general), or under other than honorable conditions (UOTHC) service characterizations.

The complete advisory opinion is at Exhibit E.

APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATION

The Board sent a copy of the advisory opinion to the applicant on 26 Nov 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 finding no error or injustice in the separation. The applicant voluntarily separated, waiving his service commitment as part of the LADSC program serving 1 year, 1 month, and 28 days. Being a voluntary program, the separation was not denoted as force shaping/reduction; only those who met a force shaping board were discharged for that reason. The applicant received the appropriate characterization of "honorable," and there is no such characterization of "special honorable." 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 Department of the Air Force (DAFI) 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*, paragraph 2.1, considered Docket Number BC-2024-02393 in Executive Session on 11 Mar 25:

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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 2 Jul 24.
- Exhibit B: Documentary Evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DPMSSR, dated 18 Nov 24.
- Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 26 Nov 24.

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.

4/1/2025

X

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Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR

Signed by: Work-Product

AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2024-02393

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