



Work-Product

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2024-02720

Work-Product

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: YES

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

The break-in-service following her separation from active duty on and her appointment in the Air Force Reserve (AFR) be eliminated.

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

In Apr 23, approximately one-year out from her date of separation (DOS) from active duty, she reached out to the In-Service Recruiter (ISR) to find out the process and timeline necessary to submit an application for PALACE FRONT in order not to have a gap in service going from active duty to the reserves. She was told that he couldn't initiate the scroll process until 6 months prior to her DOS, and in Oct 23 she submitted her PALACE FRONT application to the ISR and discussed the additional step required due to her being a medical profile and that the ISR would begin working the medical exemption immediately. In Dec 23, she took a Physical Fitness (PT) test with an exemption for the walk/run and sent to results and profile to the ISR and inquired into the status of the scroll and medical exemption. In Feb 24, she was informed that the scroll had been approved, however, in late Mar 24, three (3) days prior to her DOS, she received a call from the ISR stating since they had only looked at her PT test score, they did not submit for a medical exemption, and that she still needed a medical exemption. On 4 Apr 24, her medical exemption was approved and the recruiter routed the paperwork with an expedited gain date of 12 Apr 24.

The break in service resulted in a loss of Transitional Assistance Management Program (TAMP) benefits, which requires extensive work on her part to correct. In addition, it prevented her from accepting her Blended Retirement System (BRS) continuation pay which had to be accepted by 23 May 24. She finally received email that she was gained on 25 Jul 24.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is an AFR major (O-4).

On 31 Mar 24, according to DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, she was honorably resigned from active duty for the narrative reason of completion of required active service. She was credited with 11 years, 10 months, and 8 days of active service.

On 4 Apr 25, according to her Military Personnel Delivery System (MilPDS) record, reflects on 1 Apr 24, she was assigned to Nonobligatory Nonparticipating Ready Reserve, **Work-Product**. Further, it reflects an Effective Date of Initial Gain to Strength (EDGIS) of 30 Apr 24 and assigned as IMA to Deputy Director, **Work-P...** — **Work-Product**.

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

APPLICABLE AUTHORITY/GUIDANCE

Department of the Air Force Instruction (DAFI) 36-3211, *Military Separations*, Chapter 26, *PALACE FRONT*. 26.1. *Program Description*. The PALACE FRONT program is an intra-service transfer program which allows active USAF or USSF officers and enlisted members to transfer from the active component to the ANG or the AFR the day after their approved DOS from the regular component. The PALACE FRONT program is not a voluntary separation program or a pre-ETS process that waives a current enlistment contract or ADSC. The purpose of the program is to allow members that already have an approved DOS to seamlessly transfer from the active component of the USAF or USSF to selected reserve service within the ARC.

26.3.6.1. All officers who separate from the regular component resign that commission effective the day after the established DOS. Officers must have an approved reserve scroll prior to appointment into the ARC.

26.3.7. (All Applicants) The AF Form 1288 is to be submitted to AFPC no less than 5 duty days prior to the member's current DOS. **Exception:** A member's completed AF Form 1288 may be submitted within 5 duty days if the applicant, the ARC ISR, or the ARC MPF contacts AFPC/DPMSSR at the time of submission. When a PALACE FRONT participant's AF Form 1288 is not submitted to AFPC/DPMSSR prior to the member's DOS the ARC MPF should correct the participant's record.

26.5.4.1. The PALACE FRONT participant must be gained effective the day after the member's DOS from the active component.

TRICARE Website, Transitional Assistance Management Program | TRICARE. Transitional Assistance Management Program. The Transitional Assistance Management Program (TAMP) provides 180 days of health care benefits after regular TRICARE benefits end. The benefits help with your transition. You also don't have to pay any premiums for TAMP. Eligibility. TAMP may cover you and your eligible family members if you are: Separating from regular active duty service and agree to become a member of the Selected Reserve of a Reserve Component. ***The Service member must become a Selected Reservist the day immediately following release from regular active duty service to qualify.***

According to the **Department of Defense, Military Compensation**, website: <https://militarypay.defense.gov/BlendedRetirement/>, BRS Fact Sheet, Continuation Pay, Continuation pay is a direct cash payout, like a bonus, available to service members enrolled in the BRS. It is targeted at the mid-career mark, payable between completion of eight years of service, but before completion of 12 years of service (calculated from a service member's Pay Entry Base Date). Most service members will be eligible for continuation pay, but the timing and the amount is determined by your service. This one-time payout is available to active duty, National Guard and Reserve service members enrolled in the BRS who are able to enter into an agreement to perform additional obligated service.

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

ARPC/DPAR recommends denying the request. Based on the documentation provided by the applicant and analysis of the facts, there is no evidence of an error or injustice. The member does not have a break in service. On 3 Mar 24, the recruiter recommended the applicant be placed in the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) until a position became available. The appointment order and MilPDS reflect that she went into the IRR on 1 Apr 24. Further, MilPDS reflects that on 30 Apr 24, she went into the Selective Reserve and gained into an overage position. In addition, the applicant was not medically qualified for the Reserve until 3 Apr 24.

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 20 Mar 25 for comment (Exhibit D), and on 7 Apr 25 the applicant replied. In her response, she contended that it was due to the failure of the recruiter that she was placed in the IRR instead of transitioning directly into the Reserves and her current IMA position. The recruiter had her application, which included all the necessary documents, 10 months prior to her separation and they "forgot" to submit the application to the AFR/SG for her waiver. The AFR/SG approved her medical waiver on 3 Apr 24, which was exactly one week after the recruiter notified her of their mistake and if they had submitted it in a timely manner, the waiver would have been approved prior to her DOS and she would not have had to go into the IRR. Being placed in the IRR significantly affected her promotion eligibility, and required significant effort to get gained and be able to perform individual duty for training (IDT) and annual training (AT). She was not able to be gained until the end of Jun 24, and was not able to perform IDT and/or AT until Aug 24. So, she lost 5 months of time in the reserves. She strongly encourages the Board to reconsider the advisory opinion recommendation and grant her request.

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. While the Board notes the rationale and recommendation of ARPC/DPAR against correcting the record, the Board finds a preponderance of the evidence substantiates the applicant's contentions. The Board notes the purpose of PALACE FRONT is to seamlessly transfer members with an approved DOS from active service into the Selective Reserve. The Board determines that due to no fault of the applicant, her medical waiver was not processed in a timely manner in order to be approved prior to her separation from active duty and accession into the Selective Reserve. Therefore, the Board recommends correcting the applicant's record as indicated below.
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

AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2024-02720

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Controlled by: SAF/MRB

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Limited Dissemination Control: N/A

POC: SAF.MRBC.Workflow@us.af.mil

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The pertinent military records of the Department of the Air Force relating to APPLICANT be corrected to show:

a. She was not released from active duty on 31 Mar 24, but on that date, she continued to serve on active duty until 2 Apr 24, on which date she tendered her resignation, was discharged from all Air Force appointments, and was released from active duty.

b. She was not placed in the Individual Ready Reserve on 1 Apr 24, but instead, she was placed in the Selective Reserves on 3 Apr 24 and assigned to Headquarters, Air Force Office of Special Investigations.

However, regarding the remainder of the applicant's request, the Board recommends informing the applicant the evidence did not demonstrate material error or injustice, and the application will only be reconsidered upon receipt of relevant evidence not already considered by the Board

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-2024-02720 in Executive Session on 21 May 25:

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Panel Chair

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Panel Member

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Panel Member

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

Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 29 Jul 24.

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

Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, ARPC/DPAR, dated 10 Mar 25.

Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 20 Mar 25.

Exhibit E: Applicant's Response to Advisory Opinion, 7 Apr 25.

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.

6/23/2025

X

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Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR

Signed by: USAF

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