



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

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2024-03366

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: YES

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

His general (under honorable conditions) discharge be upgraded to honorable.

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

He only recently discovered a discharge upgrade was possible. His misconduct was the first offense of this nature and although he failed one random drug test, he was viewed as a drug dealer, when he was just a scared teenager. He passed every random drug test prior to the positive test that led to his discharge, and now as an employee for a natural gas utility company since 2001, he has passed every random test since his discharge. He volunteers with the Boy Scouts of America and other youth organizations and has conducted work for his company on several military bases in a professional and respectful manner. He also obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with a 3.93 GPA.

In support of his request for a discharge upgrade, the applicant provides a Bachelor of Science graduation certificate.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is a former Air Force airman (E-2).

On 24 Jan 00, the applicant's commander recommended the applicant be discharged from the Air Force, under the provisions of AFI 36-3208, *Administrative Separation of Airmen*, paragraph 5.54, Drug Abuse. The specific reason for the action was:

- a. Wrongful use of marijuana, a controlled substance.

On 3 Feb 00, the Staff Judge Advocate found the discharge action legally sufficient.

On 4 Feb 00, the discharge authority directed the applicant be discharged for Drug Abuse with a general (under honorable conditions) service characterization. Probation and rehabilitation were considered, but not offered.

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[REDACTED]

On 9 Feb 00, the applicant received a general (under honorable conditions) discharge. His narrative reason for separation is "Misconduct" and he was credited with 1 year, 2 months, and 22 days of total active service.

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

POST-SERVICE INFORMATION

On 18 Feb 25, the Board sent the applicant a request for post-service information and advised the applicant he was required to provide a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Identity History Summary Check, which would indicate whether or not he had an arrest record. In the alternative, the applicant could provide proof of employment in which background checks are part of the hiring process (Exhibit C). The applicant replied on 25 Oct 24 and provided an FBI report, dated 22 Oct 24. According to the report, the applicant has had no arrests since discharge.

The applicant's complete response is at Exhibit D.

APPLICABLE AUTHORITY/GUIDANCE

On 25 Jul 18, the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness issued supplemental guidance, known as the Wilkie Memo, to military corrections boards in determining whether relief is warranted based on equity, injustice, or clemency. These standards authorize the board to grant relief in order to ensure fundamental fairness. Clemency refers to relief specifically granted from a criminal sentence and is a part of the broad authority Boards have to ensure fundamental fairness. This guidance applies to more than clemency from sentencing in a court-martial; it also applies to any other corrections, including changes in a discharge, which may be warranted on equity or relief from injustice grounds. This guidance does not mandate relief, but rather provides standards and principles to guide Boards in application of their equitable relief authority. Each case will be assessed on its own merits. The relative weight of each principle and whether the principle supports relief in a particular case, are within the sound discretion of each Board. In determining whether to grant relief on the basis of equity, an injustice, or clemency grounds, the Board should refer to paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Wilkie Memo.

Department of the Air Force Instruction (DAFI) 36-3211, *Military Separations*, describes the authorized service characterizations.

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.

General (Under Honorable Conditions). If an airman's service has been honest and faithful, this characterization is warranted when significant negative aspects of the airman's conduct or performance of duty outweigh positive aspects of the member's military record.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

1. The application was timely filed. Given the requirement for passage of time, all clemency requests are technically untimely. However, it would be illogical to deny a clemency application as untimely, since the Board typically looks for over 15 years of good conduct post-service.

Therefore, the Board declines to assert the three-year limitation period established by 10 U.S.C. Section 1552(b).

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. His general discharge was consistent with the substantive requirements of the discharge regulation, within the commander's discretion, and not unduly harsh or disproportionate to the offenses committed. In the interest of justice, the Board considered upgrading the discharge based on clemency; however, the applicant did not provide sufficient post-service information. Given the passage of time, the Board would be willing to reconsider the applicant's request, should he provide additional documentation such as character reference letters and evidence of post-service contributions.

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 that 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-2024-03366 in Executive Session on 24 Jul 25:

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/atchs, dated 29 Aug 24.

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

Exhibit C: Letter, SAF/MRBC, w/atchs (FBI Bulletin with Clemency + Fundamental Fairness Guidance), dated 18 Feb 25.

Exhibit D: FBI Report, dated, 22 Oct 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.

9/18/2025

Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR
Signed by: USAF

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