

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

**DOCKET NUMBER:** BC-2025-01555

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

**COUNSEL:** NONE

(AKA) XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

**HEARING REQUESTED:** NO

**APPLICANT'S REQUEST**

1. The name on her DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, issued on 12 May 99, be changed to reflect her current legal name.
2. The name on her Reserve retirement orders, dated 9 Mar 12, be changed to reflect her current legal name.

**APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS**

She changed her name due to marriage.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

**STATEMENT OF FACTS**

The applicant is a retired Air National Guard (ANG) captain (O-3) awaiting retired pay.

The applicant served in the Regular Air Force from 17 Nov 86 to 12 May 99, under the names XXX, XXX, XXX, and XXX.

The applicant served in the ANG from 13 May 99 to 4 Sep 12, under the names XXX and XXX.

On 5 Sep 12, according to Reserve Order dated 9 Mar 12, the applicant was transferred to the Reserve Retired List.

On 28 Feb 15, due to marriage, the applicant changed her name to XXX.

On 12 Aug 25, the Air Force Personnel Center updated the applicant's name change in the Military Personnel Data System and notified the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS).

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

**APPLICABLE AUTHORITY/GUIDANCE**

Air Force policy does not authorize the correction of records of former airmen to show name changes occurring after discharge (AFI 36-2608, *Military Personnel Records System*, Table A7.3 [Name Changes]). In particular, if the name appearing on DD Form 214 was correct at the time it was created, the AFI would not allow a correction, even to reflect a subsequent, legal name change. The past practice of the Board has been to follow the AFI in all cases except those where the applicant seeks to revert to either a maiden name or the name under which he or she entered service, or the Board finds a particular injustice that warrants an exception to policy, such as noted below in the SAF/MR memorandum.

SAF/MR memorandum, *Guidance to the Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records*, dated 9 Mar 15, states that while the Board generally has the authority to correct an applicant's

records to reflect a legal change to the applicant's name, it should exercise discretion in doing so. The DD Form 214 is primarily created for the benefit of the veteran to establish entitlements to various government programs, or in seeking employment with organizations that grant veteran's preferences. A DD Form 214 may constitute an injustice when the veteran asserts that presenting a DD Form 214 that lists the old name effectively requires a needlessly intrusive explanation of personal history.

A complete copy of the SAF/MR memorandum is at Exhibit C.

### **APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF APPLICABLE AUTHORITY/GUIDANCE**

The Board sent a copy of the SAF/MR memorandum to the applicant on 12 Aug 25 for comment (Exhibit D) but has received no response.

### **FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION**

1. The application was not timely filed. The Board also notes the applicant did not file the application within three years of discovering the alleged error or injustice, as required by Section 1552 of Title 10, United States Code, and Department of the Air Force Instruction (DAFI) 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*.
2. The applicant exhausted other available administrative remedies 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 applicant's DD Form 214 and retirement orders reflect her legal name at the time the documents were published, and Air Force policy prohibits changing documents within Air Force records to reflect a name change that occurred after discharge. The Board finds the applicant has not established that presenting the applicant's DD Form 214 or other Air Force documents with the previous legal name effectively requires a needlessly intrusive explanation of personal history. 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, paragraph 2.1, considered Docket Number BC-2025-01555 in Executive Session on 29 Dec 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 18 Mar 25.
- Exhibit B: Documentary Evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: Memorandum, SAF/MR, dated 9 Mar 15.
- Exhibit D: Notification of Memorandum, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 12 Aug 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.

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Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR