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| **AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD DECISIONAL DOCUMENT** | CASE NUMBER FD0-2020-00475 |
| The applicant was discharged on 18 Jun 2019 in accordance with AFI 36-3208 with an Entry Level/Uncharacterized discharge for Erroneous Enlistment. The applicant appealed for a change to the reenlistment eligibility code. The board was conducted on 27 Aug 2020.  The applicant was offered a personal appearance before the Discharge Review Board (DRB), but declined and requested the board be completed based on a records only review. The applicant was not represented by counsel.  Pursuant to 10 USC §1553, the board included a member who is a psychiatrist/psychologist with training on mental health issues connected with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) or traumatic brain injury (TBI), and training on mental health disorders.  The attached examiner’s brief (provided to applicant only), extracted from available service records, contains pertinent data regarding the circumstances and character of the applicant’s military service.    FINDING: The DRB voted unanimously to *deny* the applicant’s request to change the reenlistment eligibility code.  DISCUSSION: The DRB, under its responsibility to examine the propriety and equity of an applicant’s discharge, is authorized to change the characterization of service and the narrative reason for discharge if such changes are warranted. If applicable, the board can also change the applicant’s reenlistment eligibility code. In reviewing discharges, the board presumes regularity in the conduct of governmental affairs unless there is substantial credible evidence to rebut the presumption, to include evidence submitted by the applicant. The board completed a thorough review of the circumstances that led to the discharge and the discharge process to determine if the discharge met the pertinent standards of equity and propriety.  The applicant contended the discharge was inequitable and improper because he was refused a medical waiver for a condition he had prior to entering the military. He claims after an extensive review of his records the medical professionals agreed there was no evidence to support the existence of a pre-existing medical condition. He requests a change to his RE Code so he may enlist in the Air National Guard.  A review of the record revealed the applicant was discharged at Basic Military Training for having a pre-existing, and disqualifying, medical condition. There is evidence in the record that the applicant was diagnosed with Bipolar Disorder, prescribed medication to treat this condition, and was psychiatrically hospitalized prior to service, and that the applicant did not disclose this medical history during MEPS processing. The DRB did not find any evidence of error and found the applicant’s contention without merit. Therefore, the applicant’s request for a change of re-entry code to allow for re-enlistment could not be supported due to current policies. Under DoDI 6130.03, Medical Standards for Appointment, Enlistment, or Induction in the Military Services, under Learning, Psychiatric, and Behavioral Condition, the applicant’s reported history of mental health conditions or disorders prior to and during service are considered disqualifying conditions for induction into military service. Liberal consideration is also not applied to the applicant’s petition due to his reason for ELS discharge being exempt for consideration under this policy.  CONCLUSION: The board found insufficient evidence of an inequity or impropriety that would warrant a change to the applicant’s discharge. Therefore, the discharge received by the applicant was deemed to be appropriate and his request was not approved.  The DRB results were approved by the board president on 8 Sep 2020. If desired, the applicant can request a list of the board members and their votes by writing to:  Air Force Review Boards Agency  Attn: Discharge Review Board  3351 Celmers Lane  Joint Base Andrews, NAF Washington, MD 20762-6602  Attachment: Examiner's Brief (Applicant Only) | |