## AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD DECISIONAL DOCUMENT

## FD-2023-00007

## **SUMMARY:**

The applicant was discharged on 27 July 2021 in accordance with Air Force Instruction 36-3208, *Administrative Separation of Airman* with a General Discharge for Misconduct (Drug Abuse). The applicant appealed for an upgrade of her discharge characterization, a change to the discharge narrative reason, and a change to the reenlistment eligibility code.

The applicant was not represented by counsel.

The applicant requested the board be completed based on a records only review. The Board was conducted on 27 April 2023.

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.

**DISCUSSION**: The Discharge Review Board (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's record of service included an Article 15 and a Letter of Reprimand. Her misconduct included: Between on or about 16 February 2021 and on or about 9 March 2021, wrongfully used marijuana; on divers occasions, between on or about 3 March 2021 and on or about 7 April 2021 wrongfully used marijuana.

The documentary evidence the Board considered as part of the review included: the DD form 293, *Application for the Review of Discharge from the Armed Forces of the United States;* the applicant's personnel file from the *Automated Records Management System (ARMS)*; and the DRB Brief.

The applicant indicated that she was discharged for an isolated incident related to marijuana experimentation. She requested an upgrade because she has learned from her mistake and has suffered the consequences of it.

The DRB reviewed the applicant's entire service record and found no evidence of impropriety or inequity to warrant an upgrade of the discharge. The applicant was aware of the Air Force policy of zero tolerance for illegal drug use, yet still violated this policy. The Board is pleased that the applicant has learned from this mistake, however, this is not a matter of inequity or impropriety which would warrant an upgrade.

**FINDING**: The DRB voted unanimously to *deny* the applicant's request to upgrade her discharge characterization, to change the discharge narrative reason, and to change the reenlistment eligibility code.

If the applicant can provide additional information to substantiate her contentions, the Board recommends she exercise the right to make a personal appearance before the DRB.

**CONCLUSION:** After a thorough review of the available evidence, to include the Applicant's issues, summary of service, service/medical record entries, and discharge process, the Board found the discharge was proper and equitable. Therefore, the awarded characterization of service shall remain] "General," the narrative reason for separation shall remain "Misconduct (Drug Abuse)," and the reentry code shall remain "2B." The Air Force DRB (AFDRB) results were approved by the board president on 11 May 2023. 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

Instructions on how to appeal an AFDRB decision can be found at <u>https://afrbaportal.azurewebsites.us</u>

Attachment: Examiner's Brief (Applicant Only)