

AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD DECISIONAL DOCUMENT

SUMMARY: The applicant was discharged on 21 September 2013 in accordance with Air Force Instruction 36-3209, *Separation and Retirement Procedures for Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve* with a General Discharge . The applicant appealed for an upgrade of his discharge characterization, a change to the discharge narrative reason, and a change to the reenlistment eligibility (RE) 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 25 May 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 documentary evidence the Board considered as part of the review includes, but is not limited to the DD form 293, *Application for the Review of Discharge from the Armed Forces of the United States* and any additional documentation submitted by applicant and/or counsel; the applicant's personnel file from the Automated Records Management System (ARMS); and the DRB Brief detailing the applicant's service information and a summary of the case.

The applicant indicated that he was discharged due to non-participation. He explained that the unit was allowing him to perform make-up drills for years and then they changed this precedent. He requested that the discharge be upgrade to "Honorable" and the RE code to "1."

The Board determined that the discharge was inequitable. The applicant provided substantial evidence regarding his ability to serve and history of outstanding performance. Additionally, there was no indication in the record of corrective action or progressive discipline related to the alleged misconduct.

FINDING: The DRB voted unanimously to **approve** the applicant's request to upgrade his discharge characterization, to change the discharge narrative reason, and to change the RE code.

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 inequitable. Therefore, the awarded characterization of service shall change to "Honorable," the narrative reason for separation shall change to "Secretarial Authority," and the reentry code shall change to "3K." The Air Force DRB (AFDRB) results were approved by the board president on 21 June 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
<https://afrbportal.azurewebsites.us>

Attachment:
Examiner's Brief (Applicant Only)