

AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD DECISIONAL DOCUMENT

SUMMARY:

The applicant was discharged on 08 September 2011 in accordance with Air Force Instruction 36-3208, *Administrative Separation of Airman*, with an Entry Level Separation for Entry Level Performance or Conduct. The applicant appealed for an upgrade of his 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 10 August 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 stated that the reason for his need to leave service was because of the behavior of his then spouse. He highlighted that any issue he had was directly related to the custody issue between himself and his now ex-spouse. The applicant indicated that since the separation, he has achieved two (2) college degrees and has served as a firefighter, EMT, and wildland captain. He concluded that he has the desire to reenlist and is no longer in contact with the person who caused the issues during his training.

The applicant requested his uncharacterized Entry Level Separation be upgraded to "Honorable." However, this would violate current Air Force policy IAW AFI 36-3208, which states Airmen are in entry level status during the first 180 days of continuous active military service and if a separation action is initiated during this time, they will receive an entry level separation without service characterization. Therefore, the applicant's request to "upgrade" to "Honorable" could not be approved.

FINDING: The DRB voted unanimously to *deny* the applicant's request to upgrade his discharge characterization and to change the discharge narrative reason. However, it voted unanimously to *approve* changing the Reentry Code to "3K."

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 remain "Entry Level Separation," the narrative reason for separation shall remain "Entry Level Performance or Conduct," and the reentry code shall change to "3K." The Air Force DRB (AFDRB) results were approved by the board president on 25 August 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://afrbaportal.azurewebsites.us>

Attachment:
Examiner's Brief (Applicant Only)