

AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD DECISIONAL DOCUMENT

SUMMARY:

The applicant was discharged on 29 July 2011 in accordance with Air Force Instruction 36-3209, *Separation and Retirement Procedures for Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve Members*, with an Entry Level Separation for Adjustment Disorder. The applicant appealed for an upgrade of her discharge narrative reason and a change to the reentry 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 26 September 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 reentry 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 she was discharged for sleep walking and has a narrative reason of "adjustment disorder." She stated that the current reentry code will not allow her to reenter service. She explained that she does not have these conditions and has had physical testing, a sleep study, doctor's visits, and a psychological evaluation to prove this. The applicant wishes to reenter military service.

While this case involves a mental health condition and would normally require a liberal consideration review, this is a presumptive grant because the Narrative Reason for Separation contains sensitive information (i.e. diagnostic disclosures) that are no longer used as of 2018. In accordance with the Under Secretary of Defense memorandum, *Guidance to Military Discharge Review Boards and Boards for Correction of Military/Naval Records Regarding Equity, Injustice, or Clemency Determinations*, dated 25 June 2018, the change to the Narrative Reason for Separation is appropriate based on a change in policy.

The applicant's request for a change of RE 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.

FINDING: The DRB voted unanimously to *approve* the applicant's request to upgrade her discharge narrative reason. The Board voted unanimously to *deny* an upgrade to the discharge characterization and the reentry code.

Should the applicant wish to appeal this decision, the applicant must request a personal appearance before this Board before applying for relief to the Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR). In accordance with DAFI 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records*, all applicants before the AFBCMR must first exhaust available administrative avenues of relief before applying to the AFBCMR, otherwise their AFBCMR case will be administratively closed until such time that the applicant avails themselves of the available avenue of relief. Therefore, should the applicant wish to appeal this decision, they must first exercise their right to make a personal appearance before the AFDRB.

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 "Entry Level Separation," the narrative reason for separation shall change to "Condition, Not a Disability," and the reentry code shall remain "2C." The Air Force DRB (AFDRB) results were approved by the board president on 27 September 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)