

**AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD DECISIONAL DOCUMENT**

**SUMMARY:**

The applicant was discharged on 30 November 2022 in accordance with Air Force Instruction 36-3208, *Administrative Separation of Airmen*, with a General discharge for Misconduct (Drug Abuse). The applicant appealed for an upgrade of his discharge characterization, a change to the 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 11 January 2024.

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's record of service included an Article 15. His misconduct included: Wrongful use of Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol, a schedule I substance.

The applicant requested an upgrade to his characterization of service, asserting it would foster his personal development and potentially open avenues for rejoining the Armed Forces. Yielding to pressure from my girlfriend, I reluctantly agreed to smoke a marijuana joint, despite having my reservations. I faced disciplinary action with an Article 15, and subsequent drug testing confirmed the presence of marijuana.

The DRB determined that no impropriety or inequity exists in the discharge. Furthermore, the Board found no evidence suggesting the applicant was unaware of the Air Force policy of zero tolerance for illegal drug use. The Board decisively affirmed that the negative aspects of the applicant's willful misconduct far outweighed any positive aspects of his military service.

**FINDING:** The DRB voted unanimously to *deny* the applicant's request to upgrade his discharge characterization, to change the discharge narrative reason, and to change 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 "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 presiding officer on 22 January 2024. 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)