

**AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD DECISIONAL DOCUMENT**

**SUMMARY:**

The applicant was discharged on 25 August 2022 in accordance with Department of the Air Force Instruction 36-3211, Military Separations, with a General Discharge for Misconduct (Drug Abuse). The applicant appealed for an upgrade of their discharge characterization, and a change to the reentry code.

The applicant requested the board be completed based on a records only review. The Board was conducted on 20 March 2024. The applicant was not represented by counsel.

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 applicant's record of service included a Letter of Reprimand. Their misconduct included: Wrongful use of Lysergic Acid Diethylamide (LSD).

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; 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 is requesting an upgrade in their characterization and reentry code. They were separated from the military due to drug use, but they would like to express their deepest commitment to rectify their past actions. They expressed that they would like to be given a second chance to serve in the military.

The DRB recognized the applicant does not contest any inequity or impropriety regarding their discharge but seeks a second chance. Upon reviewing the service record, the Board found no evidence indicating that the applicant was unaware of the Air Force's policy of zero tolerance for illegal drug use. The applicant signed an AF Form 2030, *USAF Drug and Alcohol Certificate*, acknowledging an understanding that drug abuse is incompatible with military life and does not meet military standards. Moreover, the illegal or improper use of drugs and alcohol is not condoned and typically renders an applicant ineligible for accession. Ultimately the Board found the negative aspects of the applicant's willful misconduct outweighed any positive aspects of their military service. The characterization of the discharge received by the applicant was deemed to be appropriate.

Additionally, the Board considered the factors laid out in the attachment to 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, known as the

“Wilkie Memo.” The Board considered the factors listed in paragraphs (6)(a)-(6)(l) and (7)(a)-(7)(r) of this memorandum and found no evidence of inequity or impropriety.

**FINDING:** The DRB voted unanimously to *deny* the applicant’s request to upgrade their 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 17 April 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)