

AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD DECISIONAL DOCUMENT	CASE NUMBER FD-2023-00701
<p>SUMMARY: The Applicant was discharged on 10 July 2013 in accordance with Air Force Instruction 36-3209, <i>Separation and Retirement Procedures for Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve Members</i>, with a General Discharge for Unsatisfactory Participation. The Applicant appealed for an upgrade of their reentry code.</p> <p>The Applicant requested the Board be completed based on a records only review. The Board was conducted on 16 May 2024. The Applicant was not represented by counsel.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The documentary evidence the Board considered as part of the review includes but is not limited to the DD Form 293, <i>Application for the Review of Discharge from the Armed Forces of the United States</i>, 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.</p> <p>The Applicant stated their administrative discharge was due to a manpower cut and that they were given the option to relocate to Maine or be discharged. The Applicant stated he was young and residing near family, so chose to be discharged and just stopped showing up to Unit Training Assembly weekends. The Applicant stated they were young and naive and apologized for their behavior. The Applicant requested a change to their reentry code, specifically so they can join Reserve Officer Training Corp (ROTC) and become an officer and a pilot.</p> <p>The DRB determined the discharge was proper and equitable. The DRB recognized the Applicant was 23 years old when the discharge took place, but noted he was no younger than the vast majority of first-term Airmen who properly adhere to Air Force standards of conduct. The DRB recommended the Applicant pursue the opportunity for a personal appearance before the Board to better provide clarifying information to the Board.</p> <p>Additionally, the Board considered the factors laid out in the attachment to the Under Secretary of Defense memorandum, <i>Guidance to Military Discharge Review Boards and Boards for Correction of Military/Naval Records Regarding Equity, Injustice, or Clemency Determinations</i>, 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.</p> <p>FINDING: The DRB voted unanimously to <i>deny</i> the Applicant’s request to upgrade his discharge characterization, to change the discharge narrative reason, and to change the reentry code.</p>	

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 "Unsatisfactory Participation," and the reentry code shall remain "2B." The Air Force DRB (AFDRB) results were approved by the Presiding Officer on 2 July 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://afrbaportal.azurewebsites.us>

Attachment:
Examiner's Brief (Applicant Only)