AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD DECISIONAL DOCUMENT

CASE NUMBER FD-2024-00242

SUMMARY: The Applicant was discharged on 07 April 2023 in accordance with Air Force Instruction 36-3208, *Administrative Separation of Airmen*, with an Uncharacterized Entry Level Separation for Fraudulent Entry (Drug Abuse). The Applicant appealed for a change to the reentry code.

The Applicant requested the Board be completed based on a records only review. The Board was conducted on 24 October 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 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 requested that their reentry code be updated to reflect their eligibility to reenlist. They were informed by a recruiter that discrepancies existed between their DD214 and EDD report. Specifically, their DD214 showed a reentry code of 2G, which prevented reenlistment, while their EDD report listed a 3C code, which would allow reenlistment. The Applicant believed the 2G code was unduly harsh for their discharge, which resulted from failing to disclose a one-time drug incident that occurred two years before their enlistment in the Air Force. The Applicant acknowledged their mistake in providing false information on official documents but felt that labeling their conduct as 'drug abuse' was excessive. They were told during the reenlistment process that a waiver would be possible if their DD214 code was updated to 3C, and they earnestly desired the opportunity to serve their country again.

The Discharge Review Board (DRB) determined that the 2G reentry code, generally applied to individuals who participated in or failed the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment Program (ADAPT), did not accurately reflect the Applicant's situation. The Applicant admitted to omitting a one-time pre-service drug use incident on the Air Force Form 2030 and during enlistment recertification. This omission resulted in a determination of fraudulent entry, as the Air Force would have barred enlistment had this information been disclosed.

However, a 2C reentry code, indicating an involuntary separation under an uncharacterized entry-level discharge, was deemed more appropriate given the Applicant's case. The 2C code better represents an entry-level separation due to failure to disclose prior drug use, without suggesting repeated or in-service drug issues. By changing the reentry code to 2C, the Board sought to provide a more accurate reflection of the Applicant's circumstances while upholding the integrity standards expected at enlistment. if the Applicant seeks reentry, they will likely need to consult a recruiter to assess any potential waiver options or other avenues for reconsideration. It's worth noting that although the 2C code is restrictive, it does not carry the

same severity as codes associated with more serious or recurring misconduct, which could impact a recruiter's decision on the feasibility of pursuing a waiver. Ultimately This adjustment recognizes that the primary issue was related to disclosure rather than in-service drug abuse.

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.

FINDING: The DRB voted unanimously to *approve* the Applicant's request 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 improper. Therefore, the awarded characterization of service shall remain "Uncharacterized," the narrative reason for separation shall remain "Fraudulent Entry (Drug Abuse)," and the reentry code shall change to "2C." The DRB results were approved by the Presiding Officer on 15 November 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, MD 20762-6435

Instructions on how to appeal an AFDRB decision can be found at https://afrbaportal.azurewebsites.us

Attachment: Examiner's Brief (Applicant Only)