

SUMMARY: The Applicant was discharged on 24 August 2023 in accordance with Department of the Air Force Instruction 36-3211, Military Separations, with an Entry Level Separation for Erroneous Entry. The Applicant appealed for a change to the reentry code and the separation code.

The Applicant requested the Board be completed based on a records only review. The Board was conducted on 03 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 contended that while attending Basic Military Training he was prescribed medicine that was disqualifying for service without any suggestion of alternative options nor was he informed that the medicine would lead to his discharge. He claimed he did not have the medical issue prior to joining the military and he should have been allowed to remain in the service.

A review of the applicant's record revealed, that while attending Basic Military Training the applicant reported to the medical clinic for what he claimed was a scar on his forehead. He was examined and diagnosed with linear morphea, an autoimmune disease that is disqualifying for military service. The applicant informed the medical provider that he noticed the issue prior to starting training. He requested a waiver which was denied, and he was discharged with an Entry Level Separation. IAW DoDI 6130.03, *Medical Standards for Military Service, Appointment, Enlistment, or Induction*, Chapter 6.21, Skin and Soft Tissue Conditions: History of any dermatologic condition severe enough to warrant use of systemic steroids for greater than 2 months, or any use of other systemic immunosuppressant medications are disqualifying for service. The applicant was prescribed Methotrexate medication, an immune suppressive medication, and the medical provider projected he would likely be on the medication for two years. No evidence was submitted by the applicant that the condition is resolved.

The DRB determined the Applicant's request for a change of re-entry code and separation 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*, Chapter 6.21, Skin and Soft Tissue Conditions: History of any dermatologic condition severe enough to warrant use of systemic steroids for greater than 2 months, or any use of other systemic immunosuppressant medications are disqualifying for service.

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 change the reentry code and separation code. The DRB also voted unanimously to **deny** upgrading the Applicant’s discharge characterization and narrative reason.

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, the narrative reason for separation shall remain, and the reentry code and separation code shall remain. The Air Force DRB (AFDRB) results were approved by the Presiding Officer on 04 October 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)