AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD DECISIONAL DOCUMENT

CASE NUMBER FD-2024-00341

SUMMARY: The Applicant was discharged on 30 June 2009 in accordance with Air Force Instruction 36-3208, Administrative Separation of Airmen, with a General Discharge for Unsatisfactory Performance. The Applicant appealed for a change to his reentry code and 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 Applicant's record of service included multiple Letters of Counseling and Reprimand. His misconduct included: failed dormitory inspections, possession of alcohol and underage drinking, and dereliction of duty.

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 he was young and immature when he was in the Air Force and since his discharge he has developed into a man with purpose. He requested a second opportunity to serve again.

A review of the Applicant's record revealed that while attending technical training he was administratively counseled on several occasions for various infractions including failed dorm inspections, dereliction of duty, and underage drinking. He was also removed from his training course for multiple failed exams and progress checks. The unit determined due to his repetitive misconduct he would not be considered for reclassification into another career field, and he was administratively discharged with a General discharge for unsatisfactory performance.

The DRB recognized the Applicant was 19 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 determined that, through the administrative actions taken by the chain of command in this case, the Applicant had ample opportunities to change his negative behavior. Therefore, the Board concluded the negative aspects of the Applicant's service outweighed the positive contributions he made during his short Air Force career and his discharge was 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 change his reentry code and separation code. The DRB also voted unanimously to *deny* upgrading his discharge characterization and changing the discharge narrative reason.

Since the review of the Applicant's discharge, his date of separation is now over 15 years ago. Should the Applicant wish to appeal this decision, he may apply 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*.

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)