

SUMMARY: The Applicant was discharged on April 20, 2017 in accordance with Air Force Instruction 36-3208, Administrative Separation of Airmen, with an Under Honorable Conditions (General) Service Characterization for Pattern of Misconduct. The Applicant appealed for an upgrade of their Service Characterization and a change to the Reentry Code.

The Applicant did not appear and testify before the Discharge Review Board (DRB), via video teleconference using Zoom on July 29, 2025. No witnesses were present to testify on the Applicant's behalf.

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 the following documented misconduct leading to their discharge:
-Letter of Reprimand for assault, disorderly conduct, and resisting arrest.

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 stated that they requested a review of their discharge and an upgrade to their Reentry code to allow them an opportunity to serve again in the U.S. Army. They respectfully requested a review of their discharge. While they took full responsibility for their past actions, they believed their discharge characterization and RE code were overly severe given the circumstances. Since their discharge, they have taken significant steps to improve themselves and demonstrate their commitment to service.

The DRB concluded that the Applicant did not specify any particular inequity or impropriety in their discharge process. Instead, they requested another chance citing personal growth and a desire to return to military service. While the Board acknowledged that the Applicant's statements emphasized self-improvement, they did not provide a legal or procedural foundation to contest the original discharge. The discharge was grounded in a documented pattern of misconduct which the Board noted that this was not merely a one-time error; it was the third chance given following previous disciplinary actions. Although the Applicant alleged that a pending DUI was mishandled, the evidence upheld the preponderance standard, leading to the determination that the separation was administrative and non-punitive. Furthermore, the Applicant did not present any evidence of efforts to reenlist, such as communications with a recruiter, or eligibility screenings. The Board members expressed concern that, there is no significant support that would warrant an upgrade and it was unclear what attempts were made recently by the Applicant towards rejoining the military. For these reasons, the Board has decided to maintain the Applicant's current discharge status.

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 AND 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. The DRB voted unanimously to ***deny*** the Applicant’s request. Therefore, the awarded Service Characterization shall remain “Under Honorable Conditions (General),” the Narrative Reason for separation shall remain Pattern of Misconduct, and the Reentry Code shall remain 2B. The DRB results were approved by the Presiding Officer on August 4, 2025.

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.

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

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

Attachment:
Examiner's Brief (Applicant Only)