

SUMMARY: The Applicant was discharged on October 18, 2021 in accordance with Air Force Instruction 36-3208, *Administrative Separation of Airmen*, with an Under Honorable Conditions (General) Service Characterization for Misconduct – (Serious Offense). The Applicant appealed for an upgrade of their Service Characterization, a change to the Narrative Reason for separation, and a change to the Reentry Code.

The Applicant requested the Board be completed based on a Record Review. The Board was conducted on August 21, 2025. 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 the following documented misconduct leading up to their discharge:

- Letter of Reprimand for being arrested for possession of child pornography
- Letter of Reprimand for positive urinalysis for steroids

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 a discharge upgrade based on impropriety, inequity, and clemency. They stated their separation from the Air Force stemmed from an arrest for child pornography. Although the charges were later dropped, the Applicant states they were wrongfully separated while contesting them. In addition, the Applicant believes the impact of the medically prescribed testosterone therapy was not considered during their discharge. They also noted post-service accomplishments such as pursuing their master's degree.

The DRB determined the discharge was proper and equitable. A review of the Applicant's record revealed the basis of discharge was for possessing child pornography and possessing and using illegal anabolic steroids. Administrative records showed investigative reports that the illicit images were associated with the Applicant's personal email and IP address and medical documentation for the illegal anabolic steroids were not recorded in their record. They signed and submitted a conditional waiver of their administrative discharge board hearing, contingent on their receipt of no less than an Under Honorable Conditions (General) service characterization which was approved. The Applicant stated the charges were dropped however, did not provide any supporting evidence. Therefore, the Board denied the Applicant's request to upgrade their Service Characterization, change the Narrative Reason, and change the Reentry Code

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 Misconduct – (Serious Offense), and the Reentry Code shall remain 2B. The DRB results were approved by the Presiding Officer on August 25, 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)