

**SUMMARY:** The Applicant was discharged on December 16, 2024 in accordance with Department of the Air Force Instruction 36-3 Choose an item. 211, Military Separations, with an Under Honorable Conditions (General) Service Characterization for Unacceptable Conduct. The Applicant appealed for an upgrade of their Service Characterization and a change to the Narrative Reason for separation.

The Applicant requested the Board be completed based on a Record Review. The Board was conducted on September 11, 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 to their discharge:  
-Article 15 for engaging in an unprofessional relationship.

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 their discharge should be upgraded based on their record of dedication, excellence, and resilience, noting leadership roles as Technical Product Owner, Software Test Manager, and Contracting Officer Representative. They asserted that their contributions, including rewriting the unit's test strategy and receiving their flight commander's recommendation for continued service, demonstrate their value to the Air Force and commitment to mission success, fitness, innovation, and mentorship.

The DRB determined the Applicant engaged in unprofessional relations, a violation of Article 133, UCMJ, and failed to uphold the standards of officer conduct. The Board did carefully consider the Applicant's record professional contributions, as well as the endorsement from their flight commander. However, the Board emphasized that the Air Force is rooted in the Profession of Arms, where integrity is as essential as technical skill. The Applicant's conduct did not demonstrate these Air Force values. Additionally, The Board noted that minimal time had passed since separation, and thus post-service achievements did not outweigh the seriousness of the misconduct, which also included fraternization and public intoxication. Ultimately, the Board determined the negative aspects of the Applicant's service outweighed the positive, and the current discharge characterization of General (Under Honorable Conditions) for Unacceptable Conduct remains 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 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)” and the Narrative Reason for separation shall remain Unacceptable Conduct. The DRB results were approved by the Presiding Officer on September 26, 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)