

**SUMMARY:** The Applicant was discharged on December 10, 2024 in accordance with Department of the Air Force Instruction 36-3211, *Military Separations*, with an Uncharacterized / Entry Level Separation Service Characterization for Failure to Meet Procurement Medical Fitness Standards. 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 November 20, 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 did not include any documented misconduct leading up to their discharge.

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 believed their separation code was inaccurate. They also stated they disclosed their medical issue prior to enlisting and were informed they were cleared to enlist without needing a medical waiver.

The DRB determined the discharge was improper. A review of the Applicant's record corroborated their claim of disclosing a meniscus tear at MEPS and being cleared to enlist without a waiver. Furthermore, medical records indicated that the injury sustained during training would typically not result in an Entry Level Separation (ELS), and if recovery was not possible, a medical discharge would have been warranted. While the Applicant requested an upgrade from uncharacterized Entry Level Separation to Honorable, this is prohibited by DoDI 1332.14, which states that Airmen in entry-level status (first 365 days of service) who are separated receive an ELS without service characterization. Therefore, an upgrade to Honorable was not possible. However, the Board approved a change to the Narrative Reason for Separation and 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.

**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 improper. The DRB voted unanimously to ***partially approve*** the Applicant's request. Therefore, the awarded Service Characterization shall remain Uncharacterized / Entry Level Separation, the Narrative Reason for separation shall change to Condition, not a Disability, and the Reentry Code shall change to 2C. The DRB results were approved by the Presiding Officer on December 2, 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)