

SUMMARY: The Applicant was discharged on April 17, 2024 in accordance with Department of the Air Force Instruction 36-3211, *Military Separations*, with an Under Honorable Conditions (General) Service Characterization for Pattern of Misconduct. 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 appeared and testified before the Discharge Review Board (DRB), with counsel, via video teleconference using Zoom on November 18, 2025. A witness was 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 up to their discharge:

- Article 15 for violation of no contact order with spouse
- Article 15 for unlawfully injuring their two-month-old and assaulted spouse on several occasions

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's counsel argued the discharge was improper for the following reasons: the Article 15s and separation notice allegations lack supporting evidence. Even if some allegations were substantiated, a General discharge characterization was an error. In addition, they stated the Wilkie memorandum supports relief and the Applicant's overall service record and post-discharge conduct warrant favorable relief.

The DRB determined the discharge was inequitable. The discharge was based on two Article 15s, but the administrative record review, testimony, and supporting evidence presented to the Board revealed a lack of evidence to support the allegations. Multiple civilian and military agencies found no violation of orders or misconduct. Consequently, the Board approved the applicant's request to upgrade the Service Characterization, change the Narrative Reason for Separation, 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.

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 inequitable. The DRB voted unanimously to **approve** the Applicant's request. Therefore, the awarded Service Characterization shall change to Honorable, the Narrative Reason for separation shall change to Secretarial Authority, and the Reentry Code shall change to 3K. The DRB results were approved by the Presiding Officer on December 2, 2025.

Should the Applicant wish to appeal this decision, the Applicant must seek relief before the Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR) in accordance with DAFI 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records*.

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)