

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 4 June 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20230003373

APPLICANT REQUESTS: Correction of his DD Form 214 (certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) to show awards of the:

- Army Commendation Medal
- NCO Professional Development Ribbon
- Army Good Conduct Medal

APPLICANT'S SUPPORTING DOCUMENT(S) CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD:

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Permanent Orders Number 130-63
- Army Commendation Medal Certificate

FACTS:

1. The applicant did not file within the 3-year time frame provided in Title 10, U.S. Code, section 1552(b); however, the Army Board for Correction of Military Records (ABCMR) conducted a substantive review of this case and determined it is in the interest of justice to excuse the applicant's failure to timely file.

2. The applicant states his entitlement of the Army Commendation Medal, NCO Professional Development Ribbon, and the Army Good Conduct Medal is not reflected on his DD Form 214. When he was discharged his DD Form 214 was issued without a record of these awards and decorations and he was told that his awards were not important so don't worry, just take your paperwork, and leave the Army. In Texas he is authorized to display the Army Commendation Medal on his vehicle license plate. However, Texas requires that it be reflected on the DD Form 214. Texas will not accept the award certificate as proof of earning the award. If his DD Form 214 is not corrected he will not be allowed to display an award that he earned. He lives in an area with a high number of military retirees and wishes to display a record of his creditable military service

3. A review of the applicant's service record shows he enlisted in the Regular Army for 3 years on 4 May 1978. He completed training with award of the military occupational specialty 19D (Cavalry Scout). The highest grade he held was E-5.
4. Headquarters 2nd Armored Division, Fort Hood, TX Permanent Orders 130-63, dated 4 December 1980, awarded the applicant the Army Commendation Medal for Meritorious service from 5 September 1980 to 13 October 1980.
5. The applicant's DA Form 2-1 (Personnel Qualification Record) shows his awards as the Sharpshooter Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar, and the Marksman Qualification Badge.
6. The applicant was discharged on 3 May 1981 under Army Regulation 635-200 (Personnel Separations – Enlisted Personnel), Chapter 2 for completion of required service. The DD Form 214 issued at this time shows:
 - Completion of 3 years of creditable active duty with no lost time
 - Completion of the Primary NCO Officers Course in 1980
 - Award of the Sharpshooter Qualification Badge with Rifle bar
 - An honorable characterization of service

BOARD DISCUSSION:

1. After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that relief was warranted. The applicant's contentions, the military record, and regulatory guidance were carefully considered. The applicant served on active duty from 4 May 1978 to 3 May 1981, completing 3 years of active service. His record does not reflect any lost time or any derogatory information that would have disqualified him from receiving his first award of the Army Good Conduct Medal, or a commander's disqualifying memorandum for this award. The Board determined he met the criteria to be awarded the Army Good Conduct Medal (1st Award).
2. Prior to closing the case, the Board did note the analyst of record administrative notes below, and recommended the correction is completed to more accurately depict the military service of the applicant.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1 Mbr 2 Mbr 3

█	█	█	GRANT FULL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT FORMAL HEARING
:	:	:	DENY APPLICATION

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

In addition to the correction addressed in Administrative Note(s) below, the Board determined the evidence presented is sufficient to warrant a recommendation for relief. As a result, the Board recommends that all Department of the Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by:

- Awarding the applicant the Army Good Conduct Medal for service during the period 4 May 1978 through 3 May 1981
- Adding awards of the Army Good Conduct (1st Award) to his DD Form 214

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I certify that herein is recorded the true and complete record of the proceedings of the Army Board for Correction of Military Records in this case.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE(S):

A review of the applicant's record shows his DD Form 214, for the period ending 3 May 1981 is missing an entry that does not require Board action. As a result, amend the DD Form 214 by adding the following entries to item 13 (Decoration, Medals, Badges, Citations, and Campaign Ribbons):

- Army Commendation Medal
- Noncommissioned Officers Professional Development Ribbon
- Marksman Qualification Badge with Machine Gun and Hand Grenade Bars

REFERENCES:

1. Title 10, U.S. Code, section 1552(b), provides that applications for correction of military records must be filed within 3 years after discovery of the alleged error or injustice. This provision of law also allows the ABCMR to excuse an applicant's failure to timely file within the 3-year statute of limitations if the ABCMR determines it would be in the interest of justice to do so.

2. Army Regulation 600-8-22 (Military Awards) states :

a. The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to individuals who distinguish themselves by their conduct, efficiency, and fidelity during a qualifying period of active duty enlisted service. This period is 3 years except in those cases when the period for the first award ends with the termination of a period of active Federal military service. Although there is no automatic entitlement to the Good Conduct Medal, disqualification must be justified. Current practice requires that the commander provide written notice of non-favorable At that time, a disqualification was normally noted on the DA Form 2-1.

b. The Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon was established by the Secretary of the Army on 10 April 1981 as announced in General Order 1990 – 15. It is awarded to Regular Army, ARNG, and USAR Soldiers for successful completion of designated NCO professional development courses. Soldiers must successfully complete one or more of the courses listed in AR 350 – 1, which are further described on the Army Training Requirements and Resources System website. Acceptable evidence of graduation is a diploma, certificate, or a letter signed by an appropriate service school official.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//