

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: ██████████

BOARD DATE: 1 March 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20230005731

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of her DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) to show her secondary military occupational specialty (SMOS) and foreign service credit.

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty), for the period ending 11 February 1988
- Orders 95-159-028, dated 18 May 1995 (Discharge from the U.S. Army Reserve (USAR))
- DARP Form 249-2-E (Chronological Statement of Retirement Points), dated 9 August 1993
- My Awesome Coach, Life Coaching and Psychotherapy Documents, dated 10 December 2019 and 23 January 2020
- Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Rating Decision, dated 14 May 2021
- National Personnel Records Center (NPRC), Request for Separation Documents, dated 11 January 2022
- Three VA Forms 21-4138 (Statement in Support of Claim), dated 16 April 2022 and 22 April 2022

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 in order for her to qualify for mental health services or any kind of benefits, her records need to reflect her correct time in the service. Her DD Form 214 only reflects her time in basic training and advanced individual training. It does not reflect the change of her MOS from 76J (Medical Supply Specialist) to 7IL (Administrative Specialist). Her record does not reflect her active duty time overseas in the Gulf War which are important. Her original records were given to her but were

burned in a fire and she retrieved what records were available from archives. Her file was missing her DD Forms 214, medical records from sick call visits, and some awards. She notes post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other mental health issues are related to her request.

3. The applicant enlisted in the USAR on 5 May 1987.

4. Orders 223-101, dated 28 November 1987, show the applicant entered active duty for active duty training on 13 October 1987. She completed required training and was awarded MOS 76J (Medical Supply Specialist).

5. The applicant was released from active duty on 11 February 1988, under the provisions of Army Regulation (AR) 635-200 (Personnel Separations – Enlisted Personnel), paragraph 16-9a, by reason of reserve component personnel completion of MOS training and returned to the control of the USAR. Her DD Form 214 shows she completed 3 months and 29 days of active service, and her service was characterized as honorable. It also shows in:

- item 11 (Primary Specialty Number, Title and Years and Months in Specialty (Additional Specialty Numbers and Titles Involving Periods of One or More Years): 76J (Medical Supply Specialist)
- item 12f (Foreign Service): 00-00-00
- item 13 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized): Army Service Ribbon, Marksman Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar (M-16), Marksman Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Hand Grenade Bar
- item 14 (Military Education): Medical Supply Specialist Course, 6 weeks (February 1988)
- item 18 (Remarks): None

6. The Gulf War Deployment Roster is a record of Soldiers who participated in Desert Shield/Storm and served in Southwest Asia in support of military operations during the period 2 August 1990 through December 1995. This roster does not include a listing for the applicant.

7. There is no evidence in the record and the applicant did not provide evidence to show she served on active duty after the period of her initial active duty for training.

8. The applicant provides:

a. Orders 95-159-028, dated 18 May 1995, which show she was honorably discharged from the USAR, effective 18 May 1995.

b. DARP Form 249-2E, dated 9 August 1993, which show her USAR retirement points from 5 May 1987 through 5 May 1992.

c. A case summary from Life Coaching and Psychotherapy, dated 10 December 2019, which notes:

(1) She sought services due to night terrors, intense feelings of sadness, and heightened anxiety. She reported a trauma that happened during her time in the Army. She was singled out and harassed for being African American by a drill sergeant. She also witnessed a traumatic event that involved a friend of hers which was hard to forget and deal with.

(2) She went out with a fellow soldier/classmate and was assaulted by a man who attempted to rape her, but she got away. She was put on active duty while her unit deployed to Saudi Arabia, and she had a miscarriage due to the stress and anxiety she was experiencing. She had a back injury which eventually she had to have two back surgeries and was advised against a medical discharge. She was administered the PCL-C assessment in which she scored 70 on the scale for a diagnosis of PTSD and she was currently taking medication for anxiety and depressive symptoms.

d. Life Coaching and Psychotherapy letter dated 23 January 2020, which shows the applicant received eight therapy sessions from 14 November 2019 through 23 January 2020.

e. VA Rating Decision, dated 14 May 2021, show through private medical evidence received 6 February 2020 and VA examinations conducted 11 March 2020, show she was diagnosed with PTSD.

f. Letter from NPRC, dated 11 January 2022, which shows a response to request for separation documents.

g. The applicant provides three statements in support of her claim from a former partner, and her two aunts, dated 16 April 2022 and 22 April 2022, which attest to her being an outgoing happy person until she returned from basic training and Desert Storm. She showed signs of depression, anxiety attacks, paranoia, short tempered and nightmares. She became withdrawn and feared going out of the house alone.

8. The DD Form 214 is a synopsis of a Soldier's most recent period of continuous active service. It provides a brief, clear-cut record of active Army service at the time of release from active duty, retirement, or discharge.

9. The applicant's record is void of any additional active duty service periods which would qualify for the processing of a DD Form 214 or documentation that would indicate the applicant was issued a SMOS or had any foreign service time.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

1. After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that relief was not warranted. The applicant's contentions, the military record, and regulatory guidance were carefully considered.
2. The applicant requests correction of her DD Form 214 for the period ending 11 February 1988 to show her secondary military occupational specialty (SMOS) and foreign service credit during the Gulf war.
3. During the period covered by the applicant's DD Form 214 (13 October 1987 to 11 February 1988), the applicant was completing her initial active duty for training; basic combat training, and advanced individual training, where she was awarded MOS 76J. After this training she was released from active duty and returned to her Reserve unit.
4. The applicant's record does not contain any evidence to show she served on active duty for a period of 90 days or more, that would justify the issuance of another DD Form 214.
5. The DD Form 214 is a synopsis of a Soldier's most recent period of continuous active service. It provides a brief, clear-cut record of active Army service at the time of release from active duty, retirement, or discharge. Events or achievements that occurred after the issuance of a DD Form 214 will not be retroactively added to the DD Form 214.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1 Mbr 2 Mbr 3

: : : GRANT FULL RELIEF

: : : GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF

: : : GRANT FORMAL HEARING

█ █ █ DENY APPLICATION

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

The evidence presented does not demonstrate the existence of a probable error or injustice. Therefore, the Board determined the overall merits of this case are insufficient as a basis for correction of the records of the individual concerned.

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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.

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 (AR) 635-8 (Personnel Processing and Documents), in effect at the time, prescribed policies and procedures for the preparation of the DD Form 214. It states for:

a. Item 11: Enter the titles of all MOSs or area of concentration (AOCs) awarded and held for at least 1 year during the current period of service and include for each MOS/AOC the number of years and months held.

b. Item 12f: Enter the total amount of service performed outside the continental United States (OCONUS) during the period covered in block 12c (Net Active Service This Period). In addition, list periods of deployed service in block 18 (Remarks).

c. Item 14: list all formal, in-service (full-time attendance) training courses successfully completed during the period of service covered by the DD Form 214 of at least 1 week or 40 hours duration. Include course title, length in weeks, and year completed.

d. Item 18: for Reserve Component Soldiers ordered to active duty, participating in or supporting a contingency operation, and deployed to a foreign country, enter the following three statements in 1, 2, and 3, below in succession:

- "ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY IN SUPPORT OF (OPERATION NAME) PER 10 USC (applicable section)"
- "SERVICE IN (NAME OF COUNTRY DEPLOYED) FROM (inclusive dates)"
- "SOLDIER HAS/HAS NOT COMPLETED PERIOD FOR WHICH ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY FOR PURPOSE OF POST-SERVICE BENEFITS AND ENTITLEMENTS"

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//