

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 2 April 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20230007621

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty), for the period ending 25 September 2014, to reflect the following awards:

- Funeral Honors Badge
- Army Commendation Medal (ARCOM)
- Indiana Commendation Medal

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Verification of Service Letter, dated 12 June 2023

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 he was the honor graduate for his Advanced Individual Training (AIT) and received the Indiana Commendation Medal for his achievement as the honor graduate. He also received the Funeral Honors Badge for 78 funerals and an ARCOM for rapid communications set up during a unit field exercise. He believes the awards were not documented because the unit failed to properly process his line of duty.
3. The applicant provides a letter from the VA, dated 12 June 2023, which indicates he had one day of honorable service from 2 August 2016 through 3 August 2016.
4. A review of the applicant's service record shows:
 - a. He enlisted in the Army National Guard (ARNG) on 27 February 2013.

b. He entered active duty on 30 June 2014. He was honorably released from active duty training (ADT) on 25 September 2014. His DD Form 214 shows he completed 2 months and 26 days of active service. He was assigned separation code MBK and the narrative reason for separation listed as "Completion of Required Active Service." It also shows he was awarded or authorized:

- National Defense Service Medal
- Army Service Ribbon.

c. On 14 October 2014, the applicant was recommended for award of the Indiana Commendation Medal for his achievement as the honor graduate while attending AIT for unit supply specialist. The award was approved, and a certificate presented to the applicant on 21 October 2014.

d. On 7 November 2018, the applicant was retired due to permanent disability. His NGB Form 22 (National Guard Report of Separation and Record of Service) shows he completed 5 years, 8 months, and 11 days of net service for the period. It also shows he was awarded or authorized:

- National Defense Service Ribbon
- Army Service Ribbon
- Indiana Commendation Medal

e. The applicant did not provide nor did the service record include an award recommendation and/or orders for his Funeral Honors Badge and/or ARCOM.

5. By regulation (AR 635-8), for Block 13 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations, and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) list all federally recognized awards and decorations for all periods of service. Do not enter foreign or State level awards on the DD Form 214. State awards and decorations will be entered on NGB Form 22 (National Guard Report of Separation and Record of Service) upon separation from the ARNG.

6. Also by regulation, the ARCOM is awarded to a Soldier who distinguishes themselves by heroism, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service. As with all personal decorations, formal recommendations, approval through the chain of command, and announcement in orders is required.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

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. The

applicant served in the ARNG from February 2013 to November 2018. His only DD Form 214 is the one for ADT from 30 June 2014 to 25 September 2014.

a. Army Commendation Medal: Deny. There is no evidence he was recommended for or awarded an Army Commendation Medal during his ADT.

b. Funeral Honors Badge: Deny. There is no such badge in AR 600-8-22 (Military Award).

c. Indiana Commendation Medal: Deny. State awards are not entered on the DD Form 214. State awards may be recorded on an NGB Form 22. Correction to NGB Form 22 is addressed to the State ARNG that issued this form.

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 (Separations Processing and Documents) states the DD Form 214 is a summary of the Soldier's most recent period of continuous active duty. The information entered thereon reflects the conditions as they existed at the time of separation. The regulation further states for Block 13 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations, and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) list all federally recognized awards and decorations for all periods of service. Do not enter foreign or State level awards on the DD Form 214. State awards and decorations will be entered on NGB Form 22 (National Guard Report of Separation and Record of Service) upon separation from the ARNGUS.
3. AR 600-8-22 (Military Awards) prescribes policy, criteria, and procedures for individual and unit military awards and foreign decorations and badges. Paragraph 3-19 (Army Commendation Medal) states the Army Commendation Medal is awarded to a Soldier who distinguishes themselves by heroism, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service. As with all personal decorations, formal recommendations, approval through the chain of command, and announcement in orders is required.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//