IN THE CASE OF: ███████████

BOARD DATE: 22 February 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20230008506

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) to show award of the Defense Meritorious Service Medal (DMSM).

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- DD Form 214
- DMSM Certificate
- DMSM Citation
- DD Form 215 (Correction to DD Form 214), 10 April 1997

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 entered active duty as a Regular Army officer on 18 May 1981.

3. On 15 April 1990, he was honorably discharged. The DD Form 214 he was issued shows he was awarded or authorized the:

- Army Commendation Medal
- Army Service Ribbon
- Air Assault Badge
- Joint Service Commendation Medal

4. The applicant provides a/an:

    a. Copy of his DMSM certificate and citation for noncombat meritorious service while assigned to the Defense Intelligence Agency from February 1987 to April 1990.

1

   b. DD Form 215 dated 10 April 1997, which added the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.

5. Army Regulation 600-8-22 (Military Awards) states with all personal decorations, formal recommendations, approval through the chain of command, and announcement in orders are required.
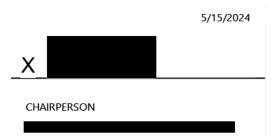

BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application and all supporting documents, the Board determined relief was warranted. The applicant's contentions, the military record, and regulatory guidance were carefully considered. Although orders for the requested awarded were not available, the Board was convinced that the applicant was previously awarded the DMSM based upon the provided award certificate and citation. Therefore, the Board recommended granting the applicant's requested relief.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1	Mbr 2	Mbr 3	
■	■	■	GRANT FULL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT FORMAL HEARING
:	:	:	DENY APPLICATION

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

The Board determined the evidence presented is sufficient to warrant a recommendation for relief. As a result, the Board recommends that all Department of Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by amending the applicant's DD Form 214 by adding the Defense Meritorious Service Medal (DMSM).

5/15/2024

X ████████

CHAIRPERSON

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 600-8-22 states the DMSM was established by Executive Order 12019, 3 November 1977. It is awarded in the name of the Secretary of Defense to servicemembers of the Armed Forces of the United States who, after 3 November 1977, distinguished himself or herself by noncombat meritorious achievement or service. The DMSM will not be used to recognize meritorious service or achievement under combat conditions. The Bronze Star Medal is the appropriate award to recognize meritorious service or achievement at the DMSM level. The prescribing directive, including processing instructions and approval authorities, for the DMSM is Department of Defense Manual 1348.33, Volume 4. As with all personal decorations, formal recommendations, approval through the chain of command, and announcement in orders are required.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//