

IN THE CASE OF: ██████████

BOARD DATE: 14 June 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20230012579

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) to show the Army Commendation Medal.

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- DA Form 4980-1 (Army Commendation Medal Certificate), 30 October 1986
- DD Form 214, for period ending 21 November 1986
- DD Form 256A (Honorable Discharge Certificate), 21 November 1989

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 earned the Army Commendation Medal during his tour of duty at Fort Benning, GA for meritorious service.
3. The applicant enlisted in the Regular Army on 22 November 1983. Having completed his term of service, he was honorably discharged on 21 November 1986. His DD Form 214 shows he completed 3 years of active service and was awarded or authorized:
  - Army Good Conduct Medal
  - Overseas Service Ribbon
  - Army Service Ribbon
  - Marksman Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar (M-16)
4. The applicant provides a DA Form 4980-14 (Army Commendation Medal Certificate) which shows award of the ARCOM on 30 October 1986 for meritorious service on 11 September 1986.

5. The applicant's record is void of orders or other evidence such as a recommendation for the Army Commendation Medal.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that relief was warranted. The Board carefully considered the applicant's record of service, documents submitted in support of the petition and executed a comprehensive review based on law, policy, and regulation. Upon review of the applicant's petition and available military records, the Board determined there was sufficient evidence, including the Army Commendation Medal Certificate provided by the applicant for meritorious service on 11 September 1986 and awarded on 30 October 1986. Based on this, the Board granted relief to correct the applicant's record to reflect award of the Army Commendation Medal.

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 adding the Army Commendation Medal his DD Form 214 for the period ending 21 November 1986.

7/1/2024

X [REDACTED]

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CHAIRPERSON  
[REDACTED]

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 (Military Awards) states the Army Commendation Medal (ARCOM) is awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States who, while serving in any capacity with the Army after 6 December 1941, distinguished himself or herself by heroism, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service. Award of the ARCOM may be made on letter application to the Commander.
3. Army Regulation 15-185 (ABCMR) prescribes the policies and procedures for correction of military records by the Secretary of the Army, acting through the ABCMR. The ABCMR considers individual applications that are properly brought before it. The ABCMR will decide cases on the evidence of record. It is not an investigative body. The ABCMR begins its consideration of each case with the presumption of administrative regularity. The applicant has the burden of proving an error or injustice by a preponderance of the evidence.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//