

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 15 May 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20230012772

APPLICANT REQUESTS: in effect, correction of her records by changing her last name (contested name) to her maiden name (requested name).

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Social Security Administration Card
- Driver's License
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Member Identification

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 she is no longer married to her former spouse.
3. The applicant enlisted in the Regular Army on 13 January 2010, using the contested name.
4. She was honorably released from active duty on 12 January 2013. The DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) she was issued contains the contested name.
5. None of the documents present in her Official Military Personnel File contains the requested name.
6. The applicant provides a Social Security Administration card issued 4 February 2019, VA member identification card, and driver's license which lists the requested name.

7. The DD Form 214 is a synopsis of the 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.

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 Board carefully considered the applicant's record of service, documents submitted in support of the petition and executed a comprehensive and standard review based on law, policy and regulation. Upon review of the applicants petition and available military records the Board determined the evidence presented does not demonstrate the existence of a probable error or injustice. The applicant used the contested name during her entire period of service. Upon review of the applicant's petition and available military records the Board determined the overall merits of this case are insufficient as a basis for correction of the records of the individual concerned. Based on this the Board determined relief was not warranted and relief was denied.

2. The Army has an interest in maintaining the integrity of its records for historical purposes. The information in those records must reflect the conditions and circumstances that existed at the time the records were created. In the absence of evidence that shows a material error or injustice, there is a reluctance to recommend that those records be changed.

3. The applicant is advised that a copy of this decisional document, along with her application and the supporting evidence she provided, will be filed in her official military records. This should serve to clarify any questions or confusion regarding the difference in the name recorded in her military records and to satisfy her desire to have her legal name documented in her military records.

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.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[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 635-8 (Separation Processing and Documents) prescribes the separation documents prepared for Soldiers upon retirement, discharge, or release from active military service or control of the Army. It states the DD Form 214 is a synopsis of the 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. Block 1 (NAME (Last, First, Middle)) states to compare the original enlistment contract or appointment order and review the official record for possible name changes. If a name change has occurred, list other names of record in block 18 (Remarks).

3. Army Regulation 15-185 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//