

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 3 September 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20230013725

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty), for the period ending 5 September 2013, to show:

- three Army Achievement Medals (AAM)
- Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB)

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) letter dated 7 October 2023
- Enlisted Record Brief (ERB)
- DD Form 214

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 his DD Form 214 is missing a few medals and a badge. He was awarded three AAMs and the CIB, but they are not listed on his DD Form 214. He does not have the orders for the CIB and needs new orders cut. He and his unit were awarded the CIB for the same reason, and he has a picture of a General pinning the badge on his uniform in Afghanistan. He believes with the evidence presented; his DD Form 214 should be corrected.

3. The applicant provides a letter from NPRC dated 7 October 2023 informing the applicant they were pleased to provide the awards listed based on the documents he provided and/or official documents available:

- Army Commendation Medal (ARCOM)
- AAM
- National Defense Service Medal (NDSM)

- Army Service Ribbon (ASR)
- Overseas Service Ribbon (OSR) with numeral 2
- Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) 1st award
- Global War on Terrorism Service Medal (GWOTSM)
- Afghanistan Campaign Medal (ACM) with 2 campaign stars (CS)

4. A review of the applicant's service record shows:

a. He enlisted in the Regular Army on 17 May 2010.

b. His ERB dated 4 April 2013, shows the applicant held military occupational specialty 11C, Indirect Fire Infantryman. In section VIII (Awards and Decorations) the following awards and decorations:

- AAM – Army Achievement Medal
- NDSM National Defense Service Medal
- ACM-CS Afghanistan Campaign Medal with campaign star
- GWOTSM – Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
- ASR Army Service Ribbon
- OSR Overseas Service Ribbon
- NATOMDL NATO Medal

c. Orders WW-060-0885 dated 1 March 2011 deployed the applicant in a Temporary Change of Station with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 21st Infantry Battalion, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan with a report date of on or about 28 April 2011 for approximately 365 days.

d. On 5 September 2013, he was released from active duty with an honorable characterization of service. His DD Form 214 shows he completed 3 years, 3 months, and 19 days of net active service. It also shows he served in Afghanistan from 17 May 2011 to 1 May 2012 and was awarded or authorized:

- ARCOM – Army Commendation Medal
- AAM Army Achievement Medal
- NDSM National Defense Service Medal
- ACM-CS (two campaign stars) Afghanistan Campaign Medal with campaign star
- GWOTSM Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
- ASR Army Service Ribbon
- OSR (2d award) Overseas Service Ribbon, 2nd Award
- NATOMDL NATO Medal

5. The available service record is void of substantiating documents awarding or authorizing the applicant three Army Achievement Medals and/or the Combat Infantryman Badge.

6. By regulation (AR 600-8-22):

a. The Army Achievement Medal is awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States, who while serving in a noncombat area on or after 1 August 1981, distinguished themselves by meritorious service or achievement. As with all personal decorations, formal recommendations, approval through the chain of command, and announcement in orders are required.

b. The Combat Infantryman Badge, a Soldier must meet three requirements: 1) be an infantryman satisfactorily performing infantry duties; 2) be assigned to an infantry unit during such time as the unit is engaged in active ground combat; and 3) actively participate in such ground combat.

8. By regulation (AR 635-5), the DD Form 214 is a summary of the Soldier's most recent period of continuous active duty. It provides a brief, clear-cut record of all current active, prior active, and prior inactive duty service at the time of release from active duty, retirement, or discharge. The information entered thereon reflects the conditions as they existed at the time of separation. 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 use abbreviations. Do not enter foreign or State level awards on the DD Form 214.

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.

a. Award of the Army Achievement Medal requires a formal recommendation, approval through the chain of command, and announcement in orders. The applicant's service record contains evidence of one award of the Army Achievement Medal and that award is listed on his DD Form 214. The applicant does not provide evidence he was recommended for or awarded two additional awards.

b. There is no evidence (in the form of a permanent order) that shows the applicant was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge. Award of the Combat Infantryman Badge requires the Soldier to meet three requirements: in the applicant's case, the applicant held an infantry MOS and was assigned to an infantry unit in Afghanistan. However, the Board did not find documentary evidence of at least one encounter where the applicant

actively participated in ground combat while assigned or attached to an infantry unit during such time as the unit is engaged in active ground combat.

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 600-8-22 (Military Awards) provides Army policy, criteria, and administrative instructions concerning individual military decorations.

a. The Army Achievement Medal is awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States, who while serving in a noncombat area on or after 1 August 1981, distinguished themselves by meritorious service or achievement. As with all personal decorations, formal recommendations, approval through the chain of command, and announcement in orders are required.

b. The Combat Infantryman Badge, a Soldier must meet the following three requirements:

- be an infantryman satisfactorily performing infantry duties
- assigned to an infantry unit during such time as the unit is engaged in active ground combat
- actively participate in such ground combat

3. Army Regulation 635-5 (Separation Documents), in effect at the time, states the DD Form 214 is a summary of the Soldier's most recent period of continuous active duty. It provides a brief, clear-cut record of all current active, prior active, and prior inactive duty service at the time of release from active duty, retirement, or discharge. The information entered thereon reflects the conditions as they existed at the time of separation. 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 use abbreviations. Do not enter foreign or State level awards on the DD Form 214.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//