

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 17 September 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20230015194

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) for the period ending 16 April 1981 to show his current social security number (SSN) (xxx-xx-[REDACTED] vice xxx-xx-[REDACTED]).

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record under the Provisions of Title 10, U.S. Code, Section 1552)
- Social Security Card
- Social Security Administration Benefit Verification Letter, 14 May 2024

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 the SSN shown on his DD Form 214 is incorrect. He is unable to obtain military benefits due to the incorrect SSN. He has tried to update his SSN numerous times without success.
3. His DD Form 1966 (Application for Enlistment – Armed Forces of the United States), 2 April 1979, shows his SSN as [REDACTED]. He signed and dated this form attesting to its accuracy.
4. His DD Form 4 (Enlistment/Reenlistment Document – Armed Forces of the United States) shows he enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserve on 4 April 1979. Item 2 (Social Security Account Number) shows his SSN as [REDACTED].
5. Item 2 (SSN) of his DA Form 2-1 (Personnel Qualification Record – Part II), 29 October 1980, shows his SSN as [REDACTED]

6. He was honorably discharged on 16 April 1981. Item 3 (SSN) of his DD Form 214 shows his SSN as [REDACTED].

7. A thorough review of his Official Military Personnel File revealed that all applicable documents contain the SSN shown on his DD Form 1966, DD Form 4, DA Form 2-1, and DD Form 214.

8. He provided the following documents for consideration:

- a. his social security card showing his current SSN and
- b. a Social Security Administration Benefit Verification Letter, 14 May 2024, informing him of his current social security benefits. This letter does not show his SSN.

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 available evidence shows the applicant used the contested SSN during his military service. The Board found no evidence he served under or used the requested SSN during his service. Although the applicant provides a birth certificate and a social security card reflective of his current SSN, the Board found no evidence he served under the submitted SSN. 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. 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, unless there is sufficient evidence that shows a material error or injustice.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1 Mbr 2 Mbr 3

: : : GRANT FULL RELIEF
: : : GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF
: : : GRANT FORMAL HEARING
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 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 15-185 (Army Board for Correction of Military Records) 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. The ABCMR members will direct or recommend changes in military records to correct the error or injustice, if persuaded that material error or injustice exists and that sufficient evidence exists in the record.

3. Army Regulation 635-5 (Separation Documents), 15 August 1979, prescribed the separation documents which are prepared for individuals upon retirement, discharge, or release from active military service or control of the Army. It established standardized policy for preparing and distributing the DD Form 214. The DD Form 214 is a synopsis of the Soldier's most recent period of continuous active duty. It provides a brief, clear-cut record of active Army service at the time of release from active duty, retirement, or discharge.

a. The general instructions stated personnel officers will use the following documents when preparing the DD Form 214:

- DA Form 201 (Military Personnel Records Jacket)
- DA Form 2 (Personnel Qualification Record – Part I) and DA Form 2-1
- separation orders
- DD Form 4
- DA Form 3716 (Personnel Financial Record)
- enlistment records and DD Forms 214 for prior-service personnel
- any other available records

b. The specific instructions for item 3 stated to verify the accuracy with the SSN of record.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//