# ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF:

BOARD DATE: 2 October 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240001628

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge) to reflect his Social Security Number (SSN) as (SSN 1) (requested SSN), instead of (SSN 2) (contested SSN).

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- DD Form 214, ending 9 December 1970
- photocopy, Social Security Card

## FACTS:

- 1. The applicant did not file within the 3-year time frame provided in Title 10, U.S. Code (USC), 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 that the SSN on his DD Form 214 is incorrect and should show SSN 1 instead of the contested SSN 2.
- 3. A review of the applicant's service record shows:
- a. The applicant enlisted in the Regular Army on 21 October 1968 for a term of 4 years. His enlistment document shows a Service Number. It does not show an SSN.
- b. DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record), which was created upon his entry on active duty, shows the SSN (SSN 2) (contested SSN).
- c. Special Orders Number 235 issued by Headquarters, U.S. Army Support Command, Saigon, on 23 August 1969 promoted the applicant to the rank/grade of specialist four (SP4)/E-4. His name line shows his contested SSN.

- d. On 28 October 1970, the applicant signed DA Form 664 (Serviceman's Statement Concerning Application for Compensation from the Veterans Administration) with the contested SSN.
- e. He was honorably discharged from active duty on 9 December 1970. His DD Form 214 shows he completed 2 years, 1 month, and 19 days of active service. Block 3 (social security number) shows the SSN (SSN 2) (contested SSN).
- 4. The applicant provides an illegible photocopy of a Social Security Card.

## **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, ending with the numbers 974 in the third through fifth digits during his military service. The Board found no evidence he served under or used the requested SSN with the numbers 558 in the third through the fifth digits. Although the applicant provides an illegible photocopy of a Social Security Card, the Board found no evidence he used this number during his military service. 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

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.



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, USC, 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 (AR) 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 begins its consideration of each case with the presumption of administrative regularity, which is that what the Army did was correct. The ABCMR is not an investigative body and decides cases based on the evidence that is presented in

the military records provided and the independent evidence submitted with the application. The applicant has the burden of proving an error or injustice by a preponderance of the evidence.

3. AR 635-8 (Separation Processing and Documents), currently in effect, 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. Block 3 (Social Security Number) states verify accuracy by reviewing initial enlistment contract and/or application for appointment.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//