

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 8 October 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240002276

APPLICANT REQUESTS: in effect, correction of his DD Form 214 (Report of Separation from Active Duty) to show his social security number (SSN) instead of his temporary identification number (TIN).

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Honorable Discharge Certificate, 9 September 1975
- DD Form 214 (Report of Separation from Active Duty), 9 September 1975
- United States of America Certificate of Naturalization, 19 August 1982
- United States of America Passport, 13 February 2014
- Driver's License, 25 February 2020
- Social Security Administration card, 17 November 2023

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's records were not available for review with this case; the records appear to have been checked out and have yet to be returned to the National Personnel Records Center. The applicant provided sufficient documentation to conduct a fair and impartial review.
3. The applicant's DD Form 214 shows he enlisted in the Regular Army on 10 June 1975.
4. The applicant's DD Form 214 also shows he was discharged on 9 September 1975. Item 3 (SSN) of his DD Form 214 shows the contested TIN.
5. The applicant provides a/an:

- a. Copy of his United States of America Certificate of Naturalization effective 19 August 1982; however, this document does not list an SSN.
 - b. Copy of his Driver's License issued 25 February 2020; however, this document does not list an SSN.
 - c. Copy of his United States of America passport; however, this document does not list an SSN.
 - d. Copy of his Social Security Administration card dated 17 November 2023, which contains the SSN he requests.
6. Army Regulation 635-5 (Separation Documents), then in effect, prescribed the separation documents prepared for Soldiers upon retirement, discharge, or release from active military service or control of the Army. It stated to transcribe the SSN at the time of separation from applicable documents in item 3.

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 applicant's contentions, the military record, and regulatory guidance were carefully considered. The applicant's service records are not available for review. His DD Form 214 does not reflect a social security number; it reflects a temporary identification number (TIN).

- a. The Board noted that the applicant likely did not have a social security card at the time and a TIN (Temporary Identification Number) was assigned to the applicant upon his enlistment in the Regular Army. This TIN appears to have been used during his military service. As a result, upon his discharge, his TIN was recorded in item 3 of his DD Form 214. His SSN was not recorded on the DD Form 214.
- b. The Board found it impractical, if not impossible, to change all of the applicant's records to reflect his true SSN since this runs the risk of losing or misidentifying documents that employ his original constructed identification number. However, based on the evidence he submitted the Board found it appropriate to correct only the applicant's DD Form 214 to show his SSN in the Remarks Bloc.

BOARD VOTE:

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GRANT FULL RELIEF

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GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF

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GRANT FORMAL HEARING

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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 the Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by adding to item 27 of his DD Form 214 the entry: SSN (the number as shown on the social security card that he provides).

██████████

[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 600-2 (Name and Birth Data, Social Security Account, and Temporary Identification Number (TIN)), in effect at the time, prescribed the procedures used for recording, issuing, or changing personnel information normally used as a means of identification.

a. The SSAN or TIN, as appropriate, will be used as the personal identifier number of U.S. Army personnel in the active, retired, and U.S. Army Reserve components effective 1 July 1969.

b. The SSAN is a primary personnel identifier, it is the responsibility of commanders at all echelons to assure that the correct number is recorded on personnel records and that only one SSAN is assigned to an individual.

c. Chapter 4 (TIN) prescribed the procedures for issuing a TIN as a means of personnel identification for those individuals being processed for military service who did not have an SSN.

(1) The number "9" was designated as the first number of the 9-digit TIN.

(2) The TIN would be entered in pencil on Armed Forces Examining and Entrance Station records in those items reserved for recording the SSN at the time of pre-enlistment or pre-induction processing. Upon receipt of a social security card by the individual prior to his entrance into the active Army, the pencil entry of the TIN would be replaced by permanent entry of the SSN.

3. Information available from the Social Security Administration shows that SSNs beginning with 800-999 are not valid SSNs; no numbers above 799 have ever been issued.

4. Army Regulation 635-5 (Separation Documents), in effect at that time, prescribed policies and procedures regarding separation documents. It also established standardized policy for preparing and distributing the DD Form 214. The purpose of a separation document is to provide the individual with evidence of his or her military service at the time of separation. It is a vital record for interested government agencies

which assist the veteran in obtaining the rights and benefits to which he is entitled. It is important that information entered thereon is complete and accurate. It stated item 3 (Social Security Number) is transcribed from the DA Form 2139 (Military Pay Voucher). In item 30 (Remarks) enter entries that are too long for their respective blocks. During the early 1970s instructions for the Remarks section included "Transcribe SSN in the following manner: SSN: 000-00-0000."

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//