

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 18 October 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240003542

APPLICANT REQUESTS: in effect, correction of his DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) to show the Meritorious Service Medal.

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Meritorious Service Medal Certificate dated 20 September 1985

FACTS:

1. The applicant did not file within the three-year time frame provided in Title 10, United States 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 he is providing documentation of his Meritorious Service Medal which was lost. He is requesting the award to pass on to his sons.

3. The applicant provides a Meritorious Service Medal certificate for outstanding meritorious service during his assignment as the Staff Cardiologist and Director, Cardiology Clinic signed on 20 September 1985 by Brigadier General GS III, Medical Command, Commanding.

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

a. He was appointed as a Reserve commissioned officer and executed oath of office on 25 June 1979.

b. Orders A-02-44348 dated 15 February 1979, ordered the applicant to active duty with a report date of on or about 24 June 1979. He entered active duty on 23 June 1979.

c. His DA Form 2-1 (Personnel Qualification Record) lists in Block 9 (Awards, Decorations & Campaigns) the Marksman Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle

Bar (M-16). The available service record does not include orders for the Meritorious Service Medal.

d. He was honorably released from active duty on 1 July 1987. His DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) shows he completed 8 years and 9 days of active service. It also shows he was awarded or authorized:

- Army Service Ribbon
- Armed Forces Reserve Medal
- Markman Marksmanship Qualification Badge (M-16) Rifle

e. Orders D-12-263088 dated 1 December 1992, honorably discharged the applicant from the Ready Reserve with an effective date of 1 November 1992.

5. By regulation (AR 600-8-22), the MSM is awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States or of a friendly foreign nation who distinguish themselves by outstanding meritorious achievement or service. After 16 January 1969 but prior to 11 September 2001, the MSM was authorized to be awarded only for meritorious service or achievement while serving in a non-combat area. As with all personal decorations, formal recommendations, approval through the chain of command, and announcement in orders are required.

#### 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 Board carefully considered the applicant's record of service, documents submitted in support of the petition, and executed a comprehensive review based on law, policy, and regulation. The Board was convinced by a preponderance of the evidence, specifically the Meritorious Service Medal Certificate provided by the applicant for meritorious service during his assignment as a fellow of the American College of Cardiology given on 20 September 1985. The Board concluded the Meritorious Service Medal was awarded to the applicant and will be added to his DD Form 214.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1      Mbr 2      Mbr 3

█	█	█	GRANT FULL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT FORMAL HEARING
:	:	:	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 Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by amending his DD Form 214, for the period ending 1 July 1987 to show award of the Meritorious Service Medal.

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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), prescribes Army policy, criteria, and administrative instructions concerning individual and unit military awards. The Meritorious Service Medal is awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States or of a friendly foreign nation who distinguish themselves by outstanding meritorious achievement or service. After 16 January 1969 but prior to 11 September 2001, the MSM was authorized to be awarded only for meritorious service or achievement while serving in a non-combat area. As with all personal decorations, formal recommendations, approval through the chain of command, and announcement in orders are required.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//