

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 11 June 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240003847

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) to show award of the:

- Army Good Conduct Medal (2nd Award)
- Army Commendation Medal (2nd Award)
- Valorous Unit Award
- Combat Medical Badge

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Army Good Conduct Medal Certificate – April 1986 to April 1989
- Army Commendation Medal Certificate, 26 February 1990
- Valorous Unit Award, 4th Squadron, 7th Cavalry, 24-28 February 1991
- Army Achievement Medal Certificate, Permanent Order 12-8, 20 April 1992
- Permanent Orders 22-20, 16 February 1993

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 he served during Operation Desert Storm and earned the requested awards.
3. The applicant provides Permanent Order 22-20 dated 16 February 1993 belonging to [REDACTED] (not his own) showing award of the Combat Medical Badge for service from 24- 28 February 1991.
4. A review of the applicant's service record shows:

- a. He enlisted in the Regular Army on 29 April 1986.
- b. His record is void of a DA Form 2-1 (Personnel Qualification Record – Part II).

c. Permanent Orders 37-12 dated 24 February 1989 shows award of the Army Good Conduct Medal for service from 29 April 1986 through date of separation on or about 28 April 1989. The Army Good Conduct Medal award was subsequently revoked in Permanent Order 45-5 dated 8 March 1989.

d. Permanent Orders 066-130 dated 5 April 1989 shows award of the Army Achievement Medal for service from 14 October 1986 through 28 April 1989. The Army Achievement Medal award was subsequently revoked in Permanent Order 096-072 dated 18 May 1989.

e. Permanent Orders 083-086 dated 30 April 1990 shows award of the Army Commendation Medal for service from 14 October 1986 through 29 June 1990.

f. Permanent Orders 082-067 dated 28 April 1989 shows award of the Army Good Conduct Medal for service from 29 April 1986 through 28 April 1989.

d. He was honorably released from active duty on 30 April 1992. His DD Form 214 shows he completed 6 years and 2 days of active service in Primary Specialty 91A, Medical Specialist, with his last duty assignment in 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry. Block 18 (Remarks) shows the applicant served in Southwest Asia from 26 December 1990 through 17 May 1991. It also shows he was awarded or authorized:

- Army Commendation Medal
- Army Good Conduct Medal
- National Defense Service Medal
- Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon
- Army Service Ribbon
- Overseas Service Ribbon
- Southwest Asia Service Medal with three bronze service stars
- Expert Marksmanship Badge Grenade
- Sharpshooter Marksmanship Qualification Rifle Badge (M-16)
- Aircraft Crewman Badge
- Driver and Mechanic Badge Driver-W Bar
- Kuwait Liberation Medal

5. A review of the applicant's record confirms he is eligible for an award not recorded on his DD Form 214. The entry will be added to his DD Form 214 as an administrative correction and will not be considered by the Board.

**BOARD DISCUSSION:**

1. After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that partial relief was warranted. The Board carefully considered the applicant's record of service, documents submitted in support of the petition and executed a comprehensive and standard review based on law, policy and regulation. Upon review of the applicant's petition and available military records, the Board determined that, based on the citation dated 26 February 1990 for meritorious service as a medical specialist, sufficient evidence exists to support the correction of the applicant's DD Form 214 to reflect the award of:

- Army Commendation Medal (2nd Award)
- Army Good Conduct Medal (2nd Award) recognize exemplary service during the period 29 April 1989 – 30 April 1992.

2. However, during deliberation, the Board determined that the applicant does not meet the regulatory guidance for the Combat Medical Badge, which requires medical department personnel (colonel and below) to be assigned or attached to a medical unit of company or smaller size that is organic to an infantry unit (brigade, regimental, or smaller) engaged in active ground combat. The applicant was assigned to HHT, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, and records confirm that his unit was not awarded the Valorous Unit Award. Based on these findings, the Board granted partial relief to amend the applicant's DD Form 214 to reflect the Army Commendation Medal (2nd Award) and Army Good Conduct Medal (2nd Award) but denied the request for the Combat Medical Badge and Valorous Unit Award.

3. Prior to closing the case, the Board did note the analyst of record administrative notes below, and recommended the correction is completed to more accurately depict the military service of the applicant.

**BOARD VOTE:**

Mbr 1      Mbr 2      Mbr 3

:	:	:	GRANT FULL RELIEF
■	■	■	GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT FORMAL HEARING
:	:	:	DENY APPLICATION

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

1. The Board determined the evidence presented is sufficient to warrant a recommendation for partial relief. As a result, the Board recommends that all Department of the Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by amending the applicant's DD Form 214 for the period ending 30 April 1992, enter in

item 13 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized)

- Army Good Conduct Medal (2nd Award)
- Army Commendation Medal (2nd Award)

2. The Board further determined the evidence presented is insufficient to warrant a portion of the requested relief. As a result, the Board recommends denial of so much of the application that pertains to award of the Valorous Unit Award and Combat Medical Badge

6/20/2025

X

CHAIRPERSON

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.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE(S):

A review of the applicant's service records shows he is authorized an additional award not annotated on his DD Form 214. As a result, amend his DD Form 214 to show award of the Army Achievement Medal, Permanent Order 12-8, dated 20 April 1992.

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 policies and procedures for military awards and decorations.

a. The Army Commendation Medal (ARCOM) is awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States who, while serving in any capacity with the Army after 6 December 1941, distinguished himself or herself by heroism, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service. Award of the ARCOM may be made on letter application to the Commander.

b. The Army Good Conduct Medal is awarded for exemplary behavior, efficiency, and fidelity in active Federal military service. It is awarded on a selective basis to each Soldier who distinguishes themselves from their 60 AR 600–8–22 • 19 January 2024 fellow Soldiers by exemplary conduct, efficiency, and fidelity throughout a specified period of continuous enlisted active Federal military service, as outlined in this chapter. There is no right or entitlement to the medal until the immediate commander has approved the award and the award has been announced in POs. Active Federal military service includes all periods of active duty and AGR service and, except for service creditable for the AFRM, excludes periods of ADT and full-time training duty. Service as a cadet at the U.S. Military Academy is considered to be active Federal military service for the purposes of military awards and decoration.

c. The Combat Medical Badge is awarded to medical department personnel (colonel and below) who are assigned or attached to a medical unit of company or smaller size that is organic to an infantry unit of brigade, regimental or smaller size which is engaged in active ground combat. The infantry unit must have been in contact with the enemy and the Soldier must have been personally present and under fire during such ground combat.

(1) Effective 16 January 1991, medical personnel who were assigned or attached to armor and ground cavalry units of brigade or smaller size, and who satisfactorily perform medical duties when the unit was engaged in actual ground combat, are eligible for this award, provided they were personally present and under fire.

(2) The Combat Medical Badge is authorized for the Southwest Asia Conflict (17 January to 11 April 1991).

d. The Valorous Unit Award is awarded for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy of the United States while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force or while serving with friendly foreign forces

engaged in an armed conflict in which the United States is not a belligerent party for actions occurring on or after 3 August 1963. This award requires a lesser degree of gallantry, determination, and esprit de corps than required for the Presidential Unit Citation. Nevertheless, the unit must have performed with marked distinction under difficult and hazardous conditions in accomplishing its mission so as to set it apart from and above other units participating in the same conflict. The degree of heroism required is the same as that which would warrant award of the Silver Star to an individual.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//