

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 14 March 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240007543

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty), for the period ending 25 March 2003 to add the following:

- Afghanistan Campaign Medal with one bronze service star
- Global War on Terrorism Service Medal (GWOTSM)
- Army Good Conduct Medal

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- DD Form 214, for the period ending 25 March 2003
- letter, Veteran Service Office, Mankato, MN, undated
- Afghanistan Campaign Medal – Approved Campaign Phases
- GWOTSM and GWOT Expeditionary Medal (GWOTEM) Fact Sheet, Army Human Resources Command (AHRC), dated 8 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 states he is requesting corrections to his DD Form 214 to better reflect his actual military service for reasons of posterity.
3. The applicant enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) on 14 January 1997. He entered active duty on 18 February 1997. He was released from active duty on 4 July 1997 upon completion of required active service. He completed 4 months and 7 days of net active service this period and was awarded or authorized the Army Service Ribbon.
4. On 28 August 2002, he was ordered to active duty in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, for a 365-day period, with a report date of 30 August 2002.

5. He served in Afghanistan from 18 September 2002 to 2 March 2003.
6. He was honorably released from active duty on 25 March 2003. He completed 6 months and 26 days of net active service. He was awarded or authorized the:
  - Army Commendation Medal
  - Army Achievement Medal
  - Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal
  - National Defense Service Medal
  - Armed Forces Reserve Medal with "M" device
  - Army Service Ribbon
  - Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon (2nd) award
7. The applicant provides a letter from his local Veterans Service Office, a list of approved campaign phases for the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, and an AHRC fact sheet pertaining to the GWOTSM and GWOTEM.

#### BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application and all supporting documents, 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 review based on law, policy, and regulation.

- a. Afghanistan Campaign Medal. Grant. The evidence of record shows the applicant served in Afghanistan from 18 September 2002 to 2 March 2003 and is authorized award of the Afghanistan Campaign Medal with one bronze service star.
- b. Global War on Terrorism Service Medal. Grant. The evidence of record shows the applicant served in support of Operation Enduring Freedom with service in Afghanistan from 18 September 2002 to 2 March 2003 and met the criteria for award of the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.
- c. Army Good Conduct Medal. Deny. The Board concluded the applicant did not complete a period of qualifying service for award of the Army Good Conduct Medal.

BOARD VOTE:

| <u>Mbr 1</u> | <u>Mbr 2</u> | <u>Mbr 3</u> |                      |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------|
| :            | :            | :            | GRANT FULL RELIEF    |
| :XX          | :XX          | :XX          | GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF |
| :            | :            | :            | GRANT FORMAL HEARING |
| :            | :            | :            | DENY APPLICATION     |

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

1. The Board determined the evidence presented is sufficient to warrant 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 25 March 2003 to show award of the Afghanistan Campaign Medal with one bronze service star and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

2. The Board further determined that 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 Army Good Conduct Medal.

X //SIGNED//

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.

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 Army Board for Correction of Military Records (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) states:

a. The Afghanistan Campaign Medal is awarded to members who have served in direct support of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF). The area of eligibility encompasses all the land area of the country of Afghanistan and all air spaces above the land area. The period of eligibility is on or after 11 September 2001 to a future date to be determined by the Secretary of Defense or the cessation of OEF. A bronze service star is authorized for wear with this medal for participation in each credited campaign. Approved designated Afghanistan campaigns are:

- Liberation of Afghanistan (11 September 2001 to 30 November 2001)
- Consolidation I (1 December 2001 to 30 September 2006)
- Consolidation II (1 October 2006 to 30 November 2009)
- Consolidation III (1 December 2009 to 30 June 2011)
- Transition I (1 July 2011 to a date to be determined)

b. The Global War on Terrorism Service Medal (GWOTSM) is authorized for award to members of the Armed Forces of the United States who have participated in Global War on Terrorism operations outside of the areas of eligibility designated for award of the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, or Iraq Campaign Medal. All Soldiers on active duty, including Reserve Component Soldiers mobilized or National Guard Soldiers activated, on or after 11 September 2001 to a date to be determined having served 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days are authorized the GWOTSM. The GWOTSM may be awarded posthumously. Only one award of the GWOTSM may be authorized to any individual; second and subsequent awards will not be awarded.

c. The Army Good Conduct Medal is awarded to individuals who distinguish themselves by their conduct, efficiency, and fidelity. This period is 3 years except in those cases when the period for the first award ends with the termination of a period of active Federal military service. Although there is no automatic entitlement to the Army Good Conduct Medal, disqualification must be justified.

3. By message dated 8 February 2005, the Military Awards Branch, U.S. Army Human Resources Command, provided clarification on award of the Army Good Conduct

Medal. It stated Reserve Component (RC) Soldiers mobilized onto active duty under Title 10 are performing "active Federal military service" and are therefore eligible to be awarded the Army Good Conduct Medal. The qualifying periods of service must be continuous enlisted active Federal service. The period of service for the Army Good Conduct Medal begins and the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (ARCAM) ends the first day the mobilized RC Soldier is serving on active duty. The period of service for the Army Good Conduct Medal ends the last day the mobilized RC Soldier is on active duty. The period of service for the ARCAM begins the day after the RC Soldier is off active duty. (Therefore, the RC Soldier's qualifying period of service for the ARCAM begins over from day one once the Soldier is off active duty. Any time prior to mobilization is lost and cannot count towards award of the ARCAM).

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//