

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 5 March 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240009689

APPLICANT REQUESTS: reconsideration of his previous request to correct his DD Form 214, Report of Separation from Active Duty, to show his current social security number (SSN).

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

- DD Form 149, Application for Correction of Military Record
- DA Form 2-1, Personnel Qualification Record
- Separation documents
- DD Form 214
- Identification Card
- Social Security Administration card

FACTS:

1. Incorporated herein by reference are military records which were summarized in the previous consideration of the applicant's case by the Army Board for Correction of Military Records (ABCMR) in Docket Number AR20110003622 on 30 August 2011.
2. The applicant states, in effect, the SSN he used at the time of entry onto active duty was issued to him in error, and he was issued a new card. However, his military records were not updated. He served his country and now he has no proof of this service because his SSN is incorrect. He just wants to be recognized as a veteran of the Cold War and Vietnam War.
3. The applicant completed a DA Form 398, Statement of Personal History, on 21 January 1975. This form lists the contested SSN.
4. The contested SSN is found on all the documents in the applicant's record which require the entry of his SSN. He did not provide documents showing he was issued a new SSN.

5. He was discharged on 17 November 2017 with an under other than honorable conditions characterization of service. The contested SSN is listed in Block 3, SSN, of his DD Form 214.

6. The applicant provides his Social Security Administration card which lists his requested SSN.

7. For historical purposes, the Army has an interest in maintaining the integrity of its records. The data and information contained in those records should reflect the conditions and circumstances that existed at the time the records were created.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

1. After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that relief was not 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, he Board took note of the applicant's contentions that the SSN used during his military service was issued to him in error and that he was later assigned a new SSN. He asserts that his military records were never updated to reflect this change, resulting in difficulty verifying his service and accessing veteran benefits.

2. The Board determined the evidence presented does demonstrate the existence of a probable error or injustice. The Board found the applicant used the contested SSN consistently throughout his military career, including his DA Form 398, completed on 21 January 1975, and his DD Form 214, dated 17 November 2017. Although the applicant provided his social security card, he did not provide documentation from the Social Security Administration (SSA) verifying that the original SSN was issued in error or that a formal correction was made. The Board recommends the applicant seek assistance directly from the Social Security Administration (SSA) to resolve the discrepancy and request consolidation of the two SSNs. Once corrected, the SSA can notify the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to ensure consistency across federal records. As such, the Board determined that the overall merits of the case are insufficient to warrant correction of the military records. Therefore, relief is denied.

3. 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. In the absence of evidence that shows a material error or injustice, there is a reluctance to recommend that those records be changed.

4. The applicant is advised that a copy of this decisional document, along with his application and the supporting evidence he provided, will be filed in his official military records. This should serve to clarify any questions or confusion regarding the difference in the social security number recorded in his military records and to satisfy his desire to have his legal SSN documented in his military records.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1 Mbr 2 Mbr 3

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

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

The Board found 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 to amend the decision of the ABCMR set forth in Docket Number AR20110003622 on 30 August 2011.

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 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 635-5, Personnel Separations-Separation Documents, establishes the policy for preparing and distributing the DD Form 214. The regulation directs that the purpose of the separation document is to provide the individual with documentary evidence of their military service at the time of release from active duty, retirement, or discharge.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//