

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 13 August 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240010099

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 256A (Honorable Discharge Certificate) for an unspecified date to show his rank/grade as Specialist Four (SP4)/E-4.

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

DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record).

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 his DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) for the period ending 14 July 1983 shows his rank/grade as SP4/E-4, but his DD Form 256A shows private first class (PFC)/E-3.
3. A review of the applicant's service records show:
 - he enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) on 2 April 1980 for a period of 6 years under the Delayed Enlistment Program with a commitment to enlist in the Regular Army on 15 July 1980
 - on 15 July 1980, he was discharged from the Delayed Enlistment Program for immediate enlistment in the Regular Army
 - Orders 190-40 show he was promoted to SP4 effective on 22 January 1982 with a date of rank of 18 January 1982
 - Orders 82-31 ordered him separated from active duty and transferred to the USAR on 14 July 1983
 - on 14 July 1983, he was honorably released from active duty to the expiration of his term of service, he was transferred to the USAR in the grade of SP4
 - on 16 March 1985, Orders 3-1 reduced his rank/grade from SP4 to PFC
 - Orders D-07-048102, show he was honorably discharged from the USAR on 14 July 1986 in the rank/grade of PFC

4. The applicant did not provide a copy of his DD Form 256A and a review of his service record did not reveal a copy of the discharge certificate.

BOARD DISCUSSION:


After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that relief was not warranted. The applicant's contentions, the military record, and regulatory guidance were carefully considered. Upon review of the applicant's petition and available military records, the Board determined the applicant was reduced to PFC/E-3 on 16 March 1985 after his release from active-duty. The Board agreed the burden of proof rest with the applicant; however, he did not provide any supporting documentation, and his service record is void of a DD Form 256A to support his request for correction of his rank/grade to SP4/E-4. Based on this the Board determined relief was not warranted and denied his request for relief.

BOARD VOTE:

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

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

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 for correction of the records of the individual concerned.



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 635-8 (Separation Processing and Documents) prescribes policy and procedural guidance relating to transition management. It consolidates the policies, principles of support, and standards of service regarding processing personnel for transition. Paragraph 9-1b (Other Documents) provides detailed instructions for preparing DD Form 256 (Honorable Discharge Certificate). It states issue DD Form 256 to all Soldiers receiving an honorable discharge.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//