

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 24 June 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240010236

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge) to show he was honorably discharged.

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

- DD Form 293 (Application for the Review of Discharge)
- 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, in effect, states his DD Form 214 only reflects he was discharged for hardship and is void of an honorable character of service determination. He needs it corrected to access benefits and prove his military service in various contexts.
3. A review of the applicant's service records reflect the following:
 - a. He was inducted into the Regular Army on 17 August 1967.
 - b. A DA Form 2476 (Application for Separation – Hardship or Dependency) shows he requested release from active military service on 1 November 1967, because his parents were having a great deal of problems with their health and finances.
 - c. The separation authority approved his request for release from active military service on 10 January 1968, under the provisions of Army Regulation 635-200 (Personnel Separations – Enlisted Personnel), Chapter 6, for hardship.
 - d. He was transferred to the U.S. Army Reserve on 13 February 1968. He completed 5 months and 27 days of net active service this period. His DD Form 214 contains the following entries in:

- Item 11c (Reason and Authority) – Hardship, AR [Army Regulation] 635-200, SPN [Separation Program Number] 227
- Item 13a (Character of Service) – No Entry
- Item 13b (Type of Certificate Issued) – No Entry
- Item 23a (Specialty Number and Title) – 11E10, Armor Crewman

e. Letter Orders Number 07-1029358, issued by the Office of the Adjutant General, U.S. Army Administration Center on 13 July 1970, discharged the applicant from the U.S. Army Reserve Control Group Standby, effective 31 July 1970. His service was characterized as honorable.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application and all supporting documents, 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, regulation, and published Department of Defense guidance for liberal consideration of discharge upgrade requests. The evidence shows the applicant was discharged from active duty due the Hardship Discharge Program. The Board found no error or injustice in his separation processing. However, the Board noted that since the applicant's command supported his hardship discharge and it was not based upon any disciplinary actions, the Board determined relief was appropriate to amend his character of service to show an honorable discharge based on his overall performance in his service record.

BOARD VOTE:

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

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

The Board determined the evidence presented is sufficient to warrant 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 13 February 1968 to show he was honorably discharged from the Army.

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 Separation – Separation Documents) prescribed the separation documents prepared for Soldiers upon retirement, discharge, or release from active military service or control of the Army. The version in effect at the time established standardized policy for preparation of the DD Form 214. It states the purpose of the separation document is to provide the individual with documentary evidence of his or her military service at the time of release from active duty, retirement, or discharge. It is important that information entered on the form be complete and accurate, reflective of the conditions as they existed at the time of separation.

a. For item 13a, enter one of the following in capital letters. "HONORABLE," "UNDER HONORABLE CONDITIONS," "UNDER CONDITIONS OTHER THAN HONORABLE," "DISHONORABLE."

b. When an enlisted person is transferred or returned to a Reserve component, enter either "HONORABLE" or "UNDER HONORABLE CONDITIONS" whichever is appropriate.

3. Army Regulation 635-200 (Personnel Separations – Enlisted Personnel) sets forth the basic authority for the separation of enlisted personnel. The version in effect at the time provided that:

a. An honorable discharge is a separation with honor and entitles the recipient to benefits provided by law. The honorable characterization is appropriate when the quality of the member's service generally has met the standards of acceptable conduct and performance of duty for Army personnel or is otherwise so meritorious that any other characterization would be clearly inappropriate.

b. A general discharge is a separation from the Army under honorable conditions. When authorized, it is issued to a Soldier whose military record is satisfactory but not sufficiently meritorious to warrant an honorable discharge.

c. Chapter 6, paragraph 6-4b, provided that at the discretion of the Secretary of the Army, and individual may be discharged or released, as appropriate, from active military service because of hardship; when in circumstances not involving death or disability of a

member of his family, his separation from the service will materially affect the care or support of his family by alleviating undue and genuine hardship.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//