

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 13 June 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240011046

APPLICANT REQUESTS: to be awarded the 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 (Armed Forces of the U.S. Report of Transfer or Discharge), 1 April 1972 – reflective of the applicant's service on active duty from 29 September 1969 – 1 April 1972 (2 years, 6 months, and 3 days); item 24 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized):
 - National Defense Service Medal
 - Vietnam Service Medal
 - Bronze Star Medal
 - Sharpshooter Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar (M-14)

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 his country honorably during the Vietnam War and successfully achieved the rank of specialist five (SP5/E-5) within 3 years.
3. A review of the applicant's service records reflects the following:
 - On 29 September 1969 – he enlisted in the Regular Army with duty as a 64C (Motor Transport Operator)
 - On or about 2 September 1970 – he deployed to the Republic of Vietnam
 - On 13 May 1971 – the applicant was promoted to SP5
 - On or about 1 April 1972 – he departed the Republic of Vietnam and was subsequently honorably released from active duty and transferred into the U.S.

Army Reserve; DD Form 214 shows he completed 2 years, 6 months, and 3 days of net active service

4. There is no evidence that the applicant received the first award of the Army Good Conduct Medal. The applicant was eligible for award of the Army Good Conduct Medal (1st Award) based on completion of qualifying service from 29 September 1969 – 1 April 1972 ending with the termination of a period of active Federal service.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that relief was 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 there was sufficient evidence, including his service from 29 September 1969 to 1 April 1972, a period of 2 years, 6 months, and 3 days. Based on this, the Board granted relief to correct the applicant's record to reflect award of the Army Good Conduct Medal (First Award).

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1 Mbr 2 Mbr 3

■	■	■	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 1 April 1972 by:

- awarding him the Army Good Conduct Medal (First Award) for the qualifying period 29 September 1969 to 1 April 1972
- adding the Army Good Conduct Medal (First Award) to his DD Form 214

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Name]

[Redacted Title]

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 672-5-1 (Military Awards) provides that the Army Good Conduct Medal was established by Executive Order 8809, 28 June 1941 and was amended by Executive Order 9323, 1943 and by Executive Order 10444, 10 April 1953. It 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 himself or herself from among his or her 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 Permanent Orders. Qualifying periods of continuous enlisted active Federal military service:

- included each 3 years completed on or after 27 August 1940
- For first award only, upon termination of service on or after 27 June 1950 of less than 3 years but more than 1 year

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//