

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 20 August 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240011452

APPLICANT REQUESTS:

a. correction of her DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) for the period ending 21 January 2003 to show in:

- block 4a (Grade, Rate, or Rank): sergeant (SGT) instead of private (PV1)
- block 4b (Pay Grade): E-5 instead of E-1
- block 12b (Separation Date This Period): 22 October 2012 instead of 21 January 2003
- block 24 (Character of Service): honorable instead of uncharacterized

b. a personal appearance hearing before the Board via video/telephone.

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record under the Provisions of Title 10, U.S. Code, Section 1552)
- Self-authored statement, 9 September 2024 with enclosures
- Enclosure A – Two copies of DD Form 214 for the period ending 21 January 2003, member copy #1 and service copy #2
- Enclosure B – Identification Card
- Enclosure C – DA Form 4836 (Oath of Extension of Enlistment or Reenlistment), 25 February 2011
- Enclosure D –
  - DA Form 3355 (Promotion Point Worksheet), 22 February 2011
  - Headquarters, U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) Command, 29 September 2011
- Enclosure E – DD Form 4 (Enlistment/Reenlistment Document – Armed Forces of the United States), 11 January 2009
- Enclosure F – DA Form 3540 (Certificate and Acknowledgment of U.S. Army Reserve Service Requirements and Methods of Fulfillment), 11 January 2009
- Enclosure G – Selected Reserve Incentive Program – USAR Reenlistment Bonus Addendum, 11 January 2009

- Enclosure H – Personnel Qualification Record, 1 February 2011
- Enclosure I – Headquarters, 335th Signal Command (Theater), East Point, GA, Orders 10-271-00001, 29 September 2010

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 it was not until she applied for her U.S. citizenship and requested an updated copy of her DD Form 214 and noticed it was in error. She would like her character of service, date of rank, and separation date be updated on her DD Form 214.
3. The applicant enlisted in the USAR on 26 October 2001 for a period of 8 years.
4. Salt Lake City Military Entrance Processing Station Orders 231-5, 21 December 2001, ordered her to initial active duty for training (IADT) on 1 August 2002 to complete basic training and advanced individual training.
5. She was released from active duty for training on 21 January 2003 by reason of completion of required active service and was returned to the control of her troop program unit. Her DD Form 214 for this period shows she completed 5 months and 21 days of net active service. Her DD Form 214 also shows in:
  - block 4a – PV1
  - block 4b – E-1
  - block 11 (Primary Specialty) – 92A (Automated Logistical Specialist)
  - block 12b – 21 January 2003
  - block 12h (Effective Date of Pay Grade) – 26 October 2001
  - block 24 – Uncharacterized
6. DA Form 4187 (Personnel Action), 22 January 2003 shows she was advanced to the rank/grade of private two/E-2 effective 22 January 2003.
7. Another DA Form 4187, 1 December 2003 shows she was advanced to the rank/grade of specialist/E-4 effective 1 December 2003.
8. Headquarters, USAR Command, Fort Bragg, NC, Orders 11-272-00025, 29 September 2011 shows she was promoted to the rank/grade of SGT/E-5 effective 1 October 2011.

9. Headquarters, 63d Regional Support Command, Mountain View, CA, Orders 12-289-00003, 15 October 2012 shows she was honorably discharged from the USAR effective 22 October 2012.

10. Her records do not contain evidence that she served 90 days or more of continuous active duty or was mobilized under appropriate statutory guidance authorizing the issuance of another DD Form 214 after 21 January 2003.

11. She provides numerous military documents from her official military personal file for her service that occurred after her active duty period.

#### BOARD DISCUSSION:

1. After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that partial relief was warranted. The applicant's contentions, the military record, and regulatory guidance were carefully considered. The applicant completed a period of IADT. She was awarded a military occupational specialty at the completion of training and was transferred back to the USAR. Regulatory guidance provides that when a Reserve Component Soldier successfully completes IADT, the characterization of service is Honorable unless directed otherwise by the separation authority. Based on this, the Board granted partial relief.

2. The DD Form 214 is a summary of a Soldier's most recent period of continuous active duty. It provides a brief, clear-cut record of all current active, prior active, and prior inactive duty service at the time of release from active duty. The Board found no error or injustice with the applicant's DD Form 214 pertaining to her rank, grade, or date of separation.


3. The applicant's request for a personal appearance hearing was carefully considered. In this case, the evidence of record was sufficient to render a fair and equitable decision. As a result, a personal appearance hearing is not necessary to serve the interest of equity and justice in this case.

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 21 January 2003 to show her character of service as Honorable.
2. The Board further determined 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 any other requested relief not mentioned above.



**X** //SIGNED//

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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 15-185 (Army Board for Correction of Military Records) prescribes the policies and procedures for correction of military records by the Secretary of the Army acting through the ABCMR. The ABCMR begins its consideration of each case with the presumption of administrative regularity. The applicant has the burden of proving an error or injustice by a preponderance of evidence. The ABCMR may, in its discretion, hold a hearing (sometimes referred to as an evidentiary hearing or an administrative hearing) or request additional evidence or opinions. Applicants do not have a right to a hearing before the ABCMR. The Director or the ABCMR may grant a formal hearing whenever justice requires.
3. Army Regulation 635-200 (Active Duty Enlisted Administrative Separations), currently in effect, states Soldiers with less than 181 days of continuous active service who have completed initial entry training, been awarded a military occupational specialty, and been assigned to a follow-on unit for duty will be processed for discharge with an honorable characterization of service.
4. Army Regulation 635-5 (Separation Documents) prescribed the separation documents prepared for Soldiers upon retirement, discharge, or release from active military service or control of the Army. It established standardized policy for preparation of the DD Form 214. It stated the DD Form 214 is a synopsis of the Soldier's most recent period of continuous active duty. It provides a brief, clear-cut record of active Army service at the time of release from active duty, retirement, or discharge. The detailed instructions for preparing the DD Form 214 stated for:
  - a. blocks 4a and 4b, enter the separating Soldier's active duty grade or rank and pay grade at the time of separation;
  - b. block 12b, enter the soldier's transition date from active duty;
  - c. block 12h, enter the separating Soldier's effective date of promotion to the current pay grade from the most recent promotion order (or reduction instrument); and
  - d. block 24, enter the characterization or description of service as determined by the directives authorizing separation.

5. Army Regulation 635-8 (Separation Processing and Documents) consolidated the policies, principles of support, and standards of service previously prescribed and published in Army Regulation 635-5 and established standardized policy for preparation of the DD Form 214. The detailed instructions for block 24 stated when a Reserve Component Soldier successfully completes initial active duty training, the character of service is "Honorable" unless directed otherwise by the separation approval authority.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//