

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 5 August 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240013562

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of her DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) to show in item 1 (Last Name, First Name, Middle Name) her last name as [REDACTED] vice [REDACTED], the contested last name.

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Driver's license
- U.S. Government Identification Card

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 she is requesting a correction to her DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) to show her last name as M___. Her name has been changed for over 30 years; she is unable to obtain a copy of the court order. All of her identification documents show her name as M___.

3. A review of the applicant's service record shows:

a. The applicant enlisted in the Regular Army on 25 October 1983. Her DD Form 4 (Enlistment Reenlistment Document) shows the applicant's last name as M___, the requested last name.

b. The DA Form 2-1 (Personnel Qualification Record) – shows the applicant's last name as U___, the contested last name. The DA Form 2-1 also list the applicant's last name in parenthesis as M___, the requested name.

c. A DA Form 4187 (Personnel Action) shows on 28 October 1983, the applicant requested a name change from M__ to U__.

d. On 8 February 1985, she was honorably released from active duty. She completed 1 year, 3 months and 14 days of active service. It also shows:

- Item 1 – U__, Carol A. (the contested last name)
- Item 18 (Remarks) – no other names listed

5. A review of the applicant's record confirms an administrative entry was omitted from her DD Form 214. The entry will be added to her DD Form 214 as an administrative correction and will not be considered by the Board.

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 review based on law, policy, and regulation. The evidence presented does not demonstrate the existence of a probable error or injustice. The applicant used the contested name "Usxxx" during her entire period of service. It is noted a DA Form 4187 was completed to change her name from the contested name to "____." The Board noted the applicant endorsed her separation document using the last name "____." Army Regulation 635-8 allows for a name change to be listed in block 18. The Board determined the overall merits of this case are insufficient as a basis for correction of the records of the individual concerned. Based on the service record and a preponderance of the evidence, the Board denied relief.

2. 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.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE(S):

A review of the applicant's service records shows an administrative entry was omitted from her DD Form 214. As a result, amend her DD Form 214 to show in Block 18 (Remarks) her name as listed on the DD Form 4 (Enlistment/Reenlistment Record), M___, Carol A., the name requested.

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), currently in effect, states the DD Form 214 is a summary of the 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, retirement, or discharge. The information entered thereon reflects the conditions as they existed at the time of separation. Block 1 (Name) states compare original enlistment contract or appointment order and review official record for possible name changes. If a name change has occurred list other names of record in Block 18 (Remarks).

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//