

1. Applicant's Name: [REDACTED]**a. Application Date:** 26 April 2021**b. Date Received:** 26 April 2021**c. Counsel:** [REDACTED]**2. REQUEST, ISSUES, BOARD TYPE, AND DECISION:**

a. Applicant's Requests and Issues: The current characterization of service for the period under review is honorable. The applicant requests an upgrade to honorable.

The applicant seeks relief contending, in effect, removal of chapter 5-13 and desires to be reinstated in the New Mexico Army National Guard. The applicant contends the diagnosis of Personality Disorder was rectified to Adult Attention Deficit Disorder.

b. Board Type and Decision: In a records review conducted on 29 July 2025, and by a 5-0 vote, the Board denied the request upon finding the separation was both proper and equitable.

However, notwithstanding the propriety of the applicant's discharge, the Board found that the applicant's DD Form 214, blocks 25, 26, and 28, contain outdated entries. The Board directed the following administrative corrections and reissue of the applicant's DD Form 214, as approved by the separation authority: Block 25, separation authority changed to AR 635-200, paragraph 5-14; Block 26, separation code changed to JFV; Block 28, narrative reason for separation changed to Condition, Not a Disability.

Please see Section 9 of this document for more detail regarding the Board's decision.

(Board member names available upon request)

3. DISCHARGE DETAILS:

a. Reason / Authority / Codes / Characterization: Personality Disorder / AR 635-200, Paragraph 5-13 / JFX / RE-3 / Honorable

b. Date of Discharge: 2 April 2010

c. Separation Facts:

(1) **Date of Notification of Intent to Separate:** In an undated memorandum.

(2) **Basis for Separation:** The applicant was informed of the following reasons: Mood Disorders, and Personality Disorder not other specified, with narcissistic and Borderline Traits.

(3) **Recommended Characterization:** Honorable

(4) **Legal Consultation Date:** 30 March 2010

(5) **Administrative Separation Board:** NA

(6) Separation Decision Date / Characterization: 1 April 2010 / Honorable

4. SERVICE DETAILS:

a. Date / Period of Enlistment: The applicant's DD Form 214 reflects an entry date to active duty on 5 August 2008 (block 12a). The applicant's DD Form 4 reflects the active duty start date as 23 July 2008. / 5 years

b. Age at Enlistment / Education / GT Score: 40 / Bachelor's Degree / 124

c. Highest Grade Achieved / MOS / Total Service: E-4 / 68W10, Health Care Specialist / 1 year, 7 months, 28 days

d. Prior Service / Characterizations: None

e. Overseas Service / Combat Service: None

f. Awards and Decorations: NDSM, GWOTSM, ASR

g. Performance Ratings: NA

h. Disciplinary Action(s) / Evidentiary Record: Orders 030-00044, 30 January 2009, reflect the applicant's permanent Orders 297-00107 to U.S. Army Intelligence Center and Fort Huachuca, 23 October 2008, were revoked.

Orders 033-0030, 2 February 2009, reflect the applicant received orders to U.S. Army Intelligence Center with a reporting date of 13 March 2009.

Physical Profile, 7 March 2010, reflects the applicant had medical conditions limiting their duties: The applicant was on a limited profile set to expire on 10 June 2010. The recommendations given were for the applicant to function in minimal stress environments and be limited to 8-hour shifts with no night shifts to maintain sleep hygiene.

i. Lost Time / Mode of Return: None

j. Behavioral Health Condition(s):

(1) Applicant provided: Mental Status Evaluation, undated, reflects the applicant was mentally responsible, had a clear-thinking process, and had the mental capacity to understand and participate in the proceedings. The applicant was diagnosed with Mood Disorder NOS and Personality Disorder NOS.

(2) AMHRR Listed: Memorandum From Inpatient Service, 10 March 2010, reflects the applicant was recommended for administrative separation. The applicant self-presented to the Emergency Room on, 19 February 2010, for worsening depression and anxiety, where they attempted to ingest hand sanitizer and bite self to gain physicians' attention. Despite multiple efforts to reclass and retain, the applicant failed three AITs and had 18 months of service. Diagnosed with Adjustment Disorder in July 2009, they received ongoing treatment which showed escalating symptoms. The applicant reported marital discord, financial strain, and occupational stress. Final diagnoses included Axis I: Mood Disorder Not Otherwise Specific (NOS) and Axis II: Personality Disorder NOS with Narcissistic and Borderline traits. The

applicant's symptoms were found to be severe, hindering the applicant's ability to function in the military environment.

The ARBA's medical advisor reviewed DoD and VA medical records, including documents listed in 4j(1) and (2) above.

5. APPLICANT-PROVIDED EVIDENCE: Application for Correction of Military Record; Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty; ACTS "Remarks" entry; email from ADRB, email from counsel; case separation file; letter to command; Report of Medical Examination; Report of Medical History; Memorandum For K. S. request for cursory medical review; email from Chief Congressional and Special Actions response to U.S. Senator.

6. POST SERVICE ACCOMPLISHMENTS: None submitted with the application.

7. STATUTORY, REGULATORY AND POLICY REFERENCE(S):

a. Section 1553, Title 10, United States Code (Review of Discharge or Dismissal) provides for the creation, composition, and scope of review conducted by a Discharge Review Board(s) within established governing standards. As amended by Sections 521 and 525 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, 10 USC 1553 provides specific guidance to the Military Boards for Correction of Military/Naval Records and Discharge Review Boards when considering discharge upgrade requests by Veterans claiming Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), sexual trauma, intimate partner violence (IPV), or spousal abuse, as a basis for discharge review. The amended guidance provides that Boards will include, as a voting board member, a physician trained in mental health disorders, a clinical psychologist, or a psychiatrist when the discharge upgrade claim asserts a mental health condition, including PTSD, TBI, sexual trauma, IPV, or spousal abuse, as a basis for the discharge. Further, the guidance provides that Military Boards for Correction of Military/Naval Records and Discharge Review Boards will develop and provide specialized training specific to sexual trauma, IPV, spousal abuse, as well as the various responses of individuals to trauma.

b. Multiple Department of Defense Policy Guidance Memoranda published between 2014 and 2018. The documents are commonly referred to by the signatory authorities' last names (2014 Secretary of Defense Guidance [Hagel memo], 2016 Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness [Carson memo], 2017 Official Performing the Duties of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness [Kurta memo], and 2018 Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness [Wilkie memo].

(1) Individually and collectively, these documents provide further clarification to the Military Discharge Review Boards and Boards for Correction of Military/Naval Records when considering requests by Veterans for modification of their discharge due to mental health conditions, including PTSD; TBI; sexual assault; or sexual harassment. Liberal consideration will be given to Veterans petitioning for discharge relief when the application for relief is based in whole or in part on matters relating to mental health conditions, including PTSD; TBI; sexual assault; or sexual harassment. Special consideration will be given to Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) determinations that document a mental health condition, including PTSD; TBI; or sexual assault/harassment potentially contributed to the circumstances resulting in a less than honorable discharge characterization. Special consideration will also be given in cases where a civilian provider confers diagnoses of a mental health condition, including PTSD; TBI; or sexual assault/harassment if the case records contain narratives supporting symptomatology at the time of service or when any other evidence which may reasonably indicate that a mental health condition, including PTSD; TBI; or sexual assault/harassment existed at the time of discharge might have mitigated the misconduct that caused a discharge of lesser characterization.

(2) Conditions documented in the service record that can reasonably be determined to have existed at the time of discharge will be considered to have existed at the time of discharge. In cases in which a mental health condition, including PTSD; TBI; or sexual assault/harassment may be reasonably determined to have existed at the time of discharge, those conditions will be considered potential mitigating factors in the misconduct that caused the characterization of service in question. All Boards will exercise caution in weighing evidence of mitigation in cases in which serious misconduct precipitated a discharge with a less than Honorable characterization of service. Potentially mitigating evidence of the existence of undiagnosed combat related PTSD, PTSD-related conditions due to TBI or sexual assault/harassment as causative factors in the misconduct resulting in discharge will be carefully weighed against the severity of the misconduct. PTSD is not a likely cause of premeditated misconduct. Caution shall be exercised in weighing evidence of mitigation in all cases of misconduct by carefully considering the likely causal relationship of symptoms to the misconduct.

c. Army Regulation 15-180 (Army Discharge Review Board), sets forth the policies and procedures under which the Army Discharge Review Board is authorized to review the character, reason, and authority of any Servicemember discharged from active military service within 15 years of the Servicemember's date of discharge. Additionally, it prescribes actions and composition of the Army Discharge Review Board under Public Law 95-126; Section 1553, Title 10 United States Code; and Department of Defense Directive 1332.41 and Instruction 1332.28.

d. Army Regulation 635-200 (Active Duty Enlisted Administrative Separations), provides the basic authority for the separation of enlisted personnel.

(1) Chapter 3, Section II provides the authorized types of characterization of service or description of separation.

(2) Paragraph 3-7a states an Honorable discharge is a separation with honor and is appropriate when the quality of the Soldier'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.

(3) Chapter 5 provides for the basic separation of enlisted personnel for the convenience of the government.

(4) Paragraph 5-13, in effect at the time, provided that a Soldier may be separated for a personality disorder, not amounting to disability, when the condition interfered with assignment to or performance of duty. The regulation requires that the condition is a deeply ingrained maladaptive pattern of behavior of long duration that interferes with the Soldier's ability to perform military duties. The regulation also directs that commanders will not take action prescribed in this Chapter in lieu of disciplinary action and requires that the disorder is so severe that the Soldier's ability to function in the military environment is significantly impaired. Army policy requires the award of a fully honorable discharge in such case.

(5) Paragraph 5-13h, stipulates a characterization of a Soldier separated per this paragraph will be characterized as honorable unless an entry-level separation is required under chapter 3, section II. Characterization of service under honorable conditions may be awarded to a Soldier who has been convicted of an offense by general court-martial or who has been convicted by more than one special court-martial in the current enlistment, period of obligated service, or any extension thereof.

(6) Chapter 15, provides explicitly for separation under the prerogative of the Secretary of the Army. Secretarial plenary separation authority is exercised sparingly and seldom delegated. Ordinarily, it is used when no other provision of this regulation applies, and early separation is clearly in the Army's best interest. Separations under this paragraph are effective only if approved in writing by the Secretary of the Army or the Secretary's approved designee as announced in updated memoranda. Secretarial separation authority is normally exercised on a case-by-case basis.

e. Army Regulation 635-5-1 (Separation Program Designator (SPD) Codes), in effect at the time, provided the specific authorities (regulatory or directive), reasons for separating Soldiers from active duty, and the SPD codes to be entered on the DD Form 214. It identified the SPD code of "JFX" as the appropriate code to assign enlisted Soldiers who were discharged under the provisions of Army Regulation 635-200, Chapter 5-13, personality disorder.

f. Army Regulation 601-210 (Regular Army and Reserve Components Enlistment Program), governs eligibility criteria, policies, and procedures for enlistment and processing of persons into the Regular Army, the U.S. Army Reserve, and Army National Guard for enlistment per DODI 1304.26. It also prescribes the appointment, reassignment, management, and mobilization of Reserve Officers' Training Corps cadets under the Simultaneous Membership Program. Chapter 4 provides the criteria and procedures for waivable and nonwaivable separations. Table 3-1, defines reentry eligibility (RE) codes:

RE-1 Applies to: Person completing his or her term of active service who is considered qualified to reenter the U.S. Army. Eligibility: Qualified for enlistment if all other criteria are met.

RE-3 Applies to: Person who is not considered fully qualified for reentry or continuous service at time of separation, but disqualification is waivable. Eligibility: Ineligible unless a waiver is granted.

8. SUMMARY OF FACT(S): The Army Discharge Review Board considers applications for upgrade as instructed by Department of Defense Instruction 1332.28.

The applicant requests an upgrade to honorable. The applicant's Army Military Human Resources Record (AMHRR), the issues, and documents submitted with the application were carefully reviewed.

Evidence in the applicant's Army Military Human Resource Record (AMHRR) confirms the applicant was diagnosed by a competent medical authority with a personality disorder: Personality Disorder, NOS

The applicant was notified of the intent to separate under the provisions of AR 635-200, chapter 5-13, Personality Disorder. The applicant was recommended for an honorable characterization of service and consulted counsel on 30 March 2010. The separation authority directed an honorable discharge on 1 April 2010. The applicant was discharged on 2 April 2010.

The applicant contends the diagnosis of Personality Disorder was rectified to Adult Attention Deficit Disorder. The applicant did not submit evidence other than their statement to support the contention. The applicant's AMHRR includes an MSE reflecting a diagnosis of Mood Disorder NOS and Personality Disorder NOS with Narcissistic and Borderline traits. The separation authority considered the MSE.

The applicant contends the narrative reason for separation needs changed. The applicant was separated under Chapter 5, paragraph 5-13, AR 635-200 provisions with an honorable

discharge. The narrative reason specified by Army Regulations for a discharge under this paragraph is "Personality Disorder," and the separation code is "JFX." Army Regulation 635-8 (Separation Processing and Documents) governs the preparation of the DD Form 214 and dictates the entry of the narrative reason for separation, entered in block 28, and separation code, entered in block 26 of the form, will be as listed in tables 2-2 or 2-3 of AR 635-5-1 (Separation Program Designator (SPD) Codes). The regulation stipulates no deviation is authorized. There is no provision for entry of any other reason under this regulation. The applicant requests the narrative reason to be removed, as it would better the employment possibilities. The board does not grant relief to gain employment or enhance employment opportunities.

The applicant desires to rejoin the military service by joining the New Mexico Army National Guard. Soldiers processed for separation are assigned reentry codes based on their service records or the reason for discharge. Based on Army Regulation 601-210, the applicant was appropriately assigned an RE code of "3." There is no basis for granting a change to the reason or the RE code. An RE Code of "3" indicates the applicant requires a waiver before being allowed to reenlist. Recruiters can best advise a former service member on the Army's needs at the time and must process waivers of reentry eligibility (RE) codes if appropriate.

9. BOARD DISCUSSION AND DETERMINATION:

a. As directed by the 2017 memo signed by A.M. Kurta, the board considered the following factors:

(1) Did the applicant have a condition or experience that may excuse or mitigate the discharge? **No.** The Board reviewed DoD and VA medical records and found no mitigating BH diagnoses on the applicant. The applicant was separated for medical under AR 635-200, Chapter 5-13. The applicant was not separated for misconduct, so the existence of the applicant's Bipolar Disorder and Adjustment Disorder can not mitigate the discharge.

(2) Did the condition exist or experience occur during military service? **N/A**

(3) Does the condition or experience actually excuse or mitigate the discharge? **N/A**

(4) Does the condition or experience outweigh the discharge? **N/A**

b. Response to Contention(s):

(1) The applicant contends the diagnosis of Personality Disorder was changed to Adult Attention Deficit Disorder. The Board considered this contention but determined that it does not affect the Army's narrative reason for separation. However, the narrative reason will change based on Army Regulation 635-200 no longer using Personality Disorder as a reason for separation. The new narration reason is Condition, Not a Disability.

(2) The applicant desires to rejoin the military service in the New Mexico Army National Guard. The Board determined that the applicant's request to be returned to duty with the NMARNG does not fall within the purview of the ADRB. The applicant may apply to the Army Board for Correction of Military Records (ABCMR), using a DD Form 293 regarding this matter. A DD Form 293 may be obtained online at <https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/forms/dd/dd0293.pdf> or from a Veterans' Service Organization.

ARMY DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD CASE REPORT AND DIRECTIVE

AR2021000009

c. The Board found that the applicant's DD Form 214, blocks 25, 26, and 28, contain outdated entries. The Board directed the following administrative corrections and reissue of the applicant's DD Form 214, as approved by the separation authority: Block 25, separation authority changed to AR 635-200, paragraph 5-14; Block 26, separation code changed to JFV; Block 28, narrative reason for separation changed to Condition, Not a Disability.

d. Rationale for Decision:

(1) The Board voted not to change the applicant's characterization of service as the applicant already holds an honorable characterization and further relief is not available.

(2) The Board voted to change the reason for discharge to Condition, Not a Disability based on AR 635-200 no longer using Personality Disorder as a reason for separation, thus the reason for discharge is no longer appropriate. The SPD code associated with the new reason for discharge is JFV.

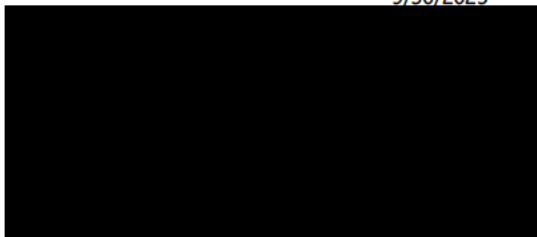
(3) The RE code will not change, as the current code is consistent with the procedural and substantive requirements of the regulation.

10. BOARD ACTION DIRECTED:

- a. Issue a New DD-214: Yes
- b. Change Characterization to: No Change
- c. Change Reason / SPD Code to: JFV, Condition, Not a Disability
- d. Change RE Code to: No Change
- e. Change Authority to: AR 635-200

Authenticating Official:

9/30/2025



AWOL – Absent Without Leave
AMHRR – Army Military Human Resource Record
BCD – Bad Conduct Discharge
BH – Behavioral Health
CG – Company Grade Article 15
CID – Criminal Investigation Division
ELS – Entry Level Status
FG – Field Grade Article 15

GD – General Discharge
HS – High School
HD – Honorable Discharge
IADT – Initial Active Duty Training
MP – Military Police
MST – Military Sexual Trauma
N/A – Not applicable
NCO – Noncommissioned Officer
NIF – Not in File
NOS – Not Otherwise Specified

OAD – Ordered to Active Duty
OBH (I) – Other Behavioral Health (Issues)
OMPF – Official Military Personnel File
PTSD – Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
RE – Re-entry
SCM – Summary Court Martial
SPCM – Special Court Martial

SPD – Separation Program Designator
TBI – Traumatic Brain Injury
UNC – Uncharacterized Discharge
UOTHC – Under Other Than Honorable Conditions
VA – Department of Veterans Affairs