

**1. Applicant's Name:** [REDACTED]

- a. **Application Date:** 26 April 2021
- b. **Date Received:** 26 April 2021
- c. **Counsel:** None

**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 a narrative reason change and a separation code change.

The applicant seeks relief contending, in effect, this is their fifth time writing to the agency regarding their case. The applicant is not a retired Reserve Captain (CPT). The applicant needs resolution on various issues to be reinstated and to complete a medical evaluation board (MEB) or at least their tour of duty during their compassionate assignment. The applicant has written the President of the United States on four occasions regarding their case because they take their career very seriously and believe they have been treated horribly. The applicant was discharged after serving almost 30 years, and there is a narrative on their DD Form 214, which reads "Unacceptable Behavior." If a particular person were diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), they would have issues as well, nightmares of seeing dead bodies in Iraq and being scared at night hearing "incoming, incoming." The applicant did not know they had these issues. The applicant had been having nightmares since they returned from Iraq in 2003, but no one seemed to care. Each time the applicant returned to Iraq, it has been the same. No one wants to hear an officer has issues or needs help.

Instead, the command would review the applicant's records from 2000 and rule it "unacceptable behavior." It seems as though no one will listen to the applicant's case. The Army Board of Correction of Military Records (ABCMR) reviewed the applicant's case in June 2012. The ABCMR decided not to retain the applicant in the Army. The applicant received a letter from the Army Review Boards Agency (ARBA) in February 2012, stating the applicant had to continue to fight their case through ARBA. Again, the applicant is fighting for their right to their career. The applicant was discharged from the Army on 29 November 2012.

Since the discharge, the applicant has been unemployed because they cannot find a job. The applicant has been depressed and suffering the stresses of what has become of their life; this is unacceptable treatment after serving in the Army for almost 30 years in Active and Reserve. The applicant understands the Army is downsizing, but this is wrong. The applicant should have been discharged by a medical evaluation board (MEB). The applicant could not do so because of the board of inquiry in March 2012. The applicant requests to be considered for an MEB or to continue their service to care for their health. The Army discarded the applicant and claimed they were indebted to the government for \$10,000 as a bonus. The applicant completed the required time and provided the proof to finance, but finance rejected it. The Secretary of the Army/Vice Secretary decided because the military service had to reduce its strength by 100,000 service personnel, they would do whatever it took to kick them out. The applicant has been punished over and over again for the same issue. The applicant requested assistance from Congressman H., but it did not help. The applicant was informed they would be allowed to continue their service if they received counseling for anger management. The applicant has done so, but the Army decided to review events from 2000 and 2009 and use them against the applicant for discharge. The applicant believes this is unfair and requests an inquiry to

determine if these actions are double jeopardy. The applicant further details the contentions in several self-authored statements submitted with the application.

**b. Board Type and Decision:** In a records review conducted on 10 April 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, block 26 contains an erroneous Separation Program Designator (SPD) code. In view of the error, the Board directed an administrative correction to block 26 to read BNC, as required by Army Regulations.

*Please see **Board Discussion and Determination** section for more detail regarding the Board's decision.*

*(Board member names available upon request)*

**3. DISCHARGE DETAILS:**

**a. Reason / Authority / Codes / Characterization:** Unacceptable Conduct / AR 600-8-24, Paragraphs 4-2 and 4-24 / JNC / Honorable

**b. Date of Discharge:** 29 November 2012

**c. Separation Facts:**

**(1) Date of Notification of Intent to Separate:** 15 November 2011

**(2) Basis for Separation:** The applicant was informed to show cause for retention on active duty under the provisions of AR 600-8-24, paragraph 4-2b for misconduct and conduct, moral or professional dereliction, because of the following reasons:

Substantiated derogatory activity resulting in two referred Officer Evaluation Reports (OERs) for periods 6 January through 15 June 2009 and 16 June through 14 December 2009.

Conduct unbecoming an officer as indicated by the above reference items.

**(3) Legal Consultation Date:** NIF

**(4) Board of Inquiry (BOI):** On 15 November 2011, the applicant requested a Board of Inquiry.

On 13 February 2012, the applicant was notified to appear before a Board of Inquiry and advised of their rights.

On 16 March 2012, the Board of Inquiry convened and the applicant appeared with counsel. The Board determined one of the three reasons listed in the notification memorandum were not supported by a preponderance of the evidence. The board recommended the applicant's discharge with characterization of service of honorable.

On 14 June 2012, the general show cause authority (GOSCA) approved the findings and recommendations of the Board of Inquiry.

**(5) GOSCA Recommendation Date / Characterization:** On 14 June 2012, the GOSCA recommended approval of the elimination. / Honorable

**(6) Army Board for Review of Eliminations:** The Army Board for Review of Eliminations considered the applicant's recommendation for elimination in accordance with AR 600-8-24, Chapter 4, and recommended the applicant be discharged with an honorable characterization of service.

**(7) Separation Decision Date / Characterization:** 14 November 2012 / Honorable

**4. SERVICE DETAILS:**

**a. Date / Period of Appointment:** 15 December 2007 / 3 years / The orders were amended on 12 December 2007, to read report date: 7 January 2008; however, the applicant's DD Form 214 reflects 15 December 2007 as the date the applicant entered active duty. The AMHRR is void orders retaining the applicant on active duty after the most recent active duty orders.

**b. Age at Appointment: / Education:** 40 / Bachelor's Degree

**c. Highest Grade Achieved / MOS / Total Service:** O-3 / 90A, Logistics / 27 years, 5 months, 26 days / It appears the applicant's time on the Delayed Entry Program was included in the calculations.

**d. Prior Service / Characterizations:** RA, 18 September 1985 – 22 September 1988 / HD USARCG, 23 September 1988 – 16 May 1996 / NA USAR, 17 May 1996 – 14 December 2007 / NA AD, 20 October 1996 – 6 February 1997 / HD (Concurrent Service)  
AD, 15 October 2000 – 1 October 2003 / HD (Concurrent Service)

**e. Overseas Service / Combat Service:** Germany, SWA / Iraq (3 March 2003 – 12 August 2003, 17 February 2011 – 18 September 2011)

**f. Awards and Decorations:** AFRM-MD-10 year BHG, ARCOM-4, AAM-3, JMUA, AGCM, ARCAM-3, NDSM-BSS, AFEM, GWOTEM, GWOTSM, ICM-CS, NCOPDR, ASR, OSR, ARCTR

**g. Performance Ratings:** 1 June 2007 – 5 January 2009 / Best Qualified  
6 January 2009 – 15 June 2009 / Fully Qualified (referred)  
16 June 2009 – 14 December 2009 / Other (referred)  
15 December 2009 – 19 May 2010 / Fully Qualified  
20 May 2010 – 19 May 2011 / Fully Qualified  
20 May 2011 – 7 September 2011 / Fully Qualified  
8 September 2011 – 7 September 2012 / Best Qualified

**h. Disciplinary Action(s) / Evidentiary Record:** Developmental Counseling Form, 20 November 2009, for being responsible for submitting reports in a timely manner.

Officer Evaluation Report (OER), 6 January through 15 June 2009, reflects the applicant received a referred OER. Part V, Performance and Potential Evaluation, the rater indicated the applicant failed the height and weight test on 24 April 2009. On 5 June 2009, the applicant asked another Soldier to retest their height and weight, whereas they passed the standard. The

Soldiers who administered the test were untrained and not appointed to provide the test. The applicant submitted a rebuttal to the OER.

Officer Evaluation Report (OER), 16 June through 14 December 2009, reflects the applicant received a referred OER. Part V, Performance and Potential Evaluation, the rater indicated the applicant was consistently late in meeting regular sensitive items inventory suspense dates and struggled to keep up with the heavy logistics requirements of setting up ranges during the 86th IBCT / PRT mobilization. During a staff meeting, the applicant was very disrespectful to the commander, yelling at the commander and being very defiant. The applicant has similar instances with peers and subordinates.

Formal AR 15-6 Investigation Findings and Recommendations, 16 March 2012, reflects the Board of Inquiry found:

The factual allegation of substantiated derogatory activity resulting in a referred OER for the period 6 January through 15 June 2009 was not supported by the evidence.

The allegation of conduct unbecoming of an officer was supported by the applicant. The BOI found the applicant admitted to conducting themselves in a manner unbecoming of an officer.

The factual allegation of substantiated derogatory activity resulting in a referred OER for the period of June through 4 December 2009 was supported by a preponderance of evidence. The applicant admitted in an unsworn testimony they did commit the derogatory activity in question.

The BOI recommended separation with an honorable characterization of service.

Message, subject: Officer Elimination, 15 November 2012, reflects the approval authority approved the applicant's elimination with an honorable characterization, under AR 600-8-24, paragraph 4-2b for Acts of Misconduct and Moral or Professional Dereliction, with separation code JNC.

Message, subject: Officer Elimination (amended), 7 January 2013, reflects the approval authority approved the applicant's elimination with an honorable characterization, under AR 600-8-24, paragraph 4-2b for Acts of Misconduct and Moral or Professional Dereliction, with separation code BNC.

The applicant provided memorandum, 8 January 2013, from the Installation Management Agency, Fort Carson, addressed to Commander, Knox-HRC-PDR-VI, requesting the following corrections be made on the applicant's DD Form 214: Change the separation code from "JNC" to "BNC," and change the assignment from NA to USAR CON GP (IRR).

Memorandum, subject: Non-Regular Retirement Grade Determination Case (10 USC, section 12731) [Applicant], 26 March 2013, reflects Office of the Assistant Secretary Manpower and Reserve Affairs directed the applicant be placed on the Retired List in their current grade of O-3 (CPT), and their retired pay be determined based on the grade.

The applicant provided The Center for Imaging medical documents, 16 September 2013, reflecting the applicant had a history of Hashimoto's thyroiditis.

**i. Lost Time / Mode of Return:** None

**j. Behavioral Health Condition(s):**

**(1) Applicant provided:** None

**(2) AMHRR Listed:** None

**5. APPLICANT-PROVIDED EVIDENCE:** Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty; Application for the Review of Discharge; three self-authored statements; eight third party statements; Recommendation for Award with Narrative and Citation for Bronze Service Medal; five OERs, compassionate reassignment email with supporting documents; personal statement; temporary change of station orders; congressional documents; DD Form 214 corrections memorandum; two elimination orders; Army Review Boards Agency Case Tracking System Quick Search page, online; Defense Finance and Accounting Service documents regarding indebtedness; medical documents; Suspension of Favorable Personnel Actions (Flag); Body Fat Content Worksheet; Assumption of Command orders; and excerpt from AR 600-9.

**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 600-8-24 (Officer Transfers and Discharges) sets forth the basic authority for the separation of commissioned and warrant officers.

**(1)** Paragraph 1-23, provides the authorized types of characterization of service or description of separation.

**(2)** Paragraph 1-23a, states an officer will normally receive an honorable characterization of service when the quality of the officer's service has met the standards of acceptable conduct and performance of duty, or the final revocation of a security clearance under DODI 5200.02 and AR 380-67 for reasons that do not involve acts of misconduct for an officer.

**(3)** Chapter 4 outlines the policy and procedure for the elimination of officers from the active Army for substandard performance of duty.

**(4)** Paragraph 4-2b, prescribes for the elimination of an officer for misconduct, moral or professional dereliction, or in the interests of national security.

**(5)** Paragraph 4-20a (previously 4-24a), states an officer identified for elimination may, at any time during or prior to the final action in the elimination case elect one of the following options: (1) Submit a resignation in lieu of elimination; (2) request a discharge in lieu of elimination; and (3) Apply for retirement in lieu of elimination if otherwise eligible.

**e.** Army Regulation 635-5-1 (Separation Program Designator (SPD) Codes), provides 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 identifies the SPD code of "JNC" as the appropriate code to assign commissioned officers who were involuntarily discharged under the provisions of Army Regulation 600-8-24 for unacceptable conduct (i.e. paragraph 4-2b, misconduct, moral or professional dereliction); SPD code "BNC" for officers who resign because

of unacceptable conduct (i.e. paragraphs 4-2b, unacceptable conduct, and 4-24a (1), resignation in lieu of elimination); SPD code "KNC" for officers voluntarily discharged for unacceptable conduct (i.e. paragraphs 4-2b, unacceptable conduct, and 4-24a (2), discharge in lieu of elimination); and SPD code "RNC" for officers with approved retirement because of unacceptable conduct (i.e. paragraphs 4-2b, unacceptable conduct, and 6-17d; also known as paragraph 4-24a(3), retirement in lieu of elimination). Officers are eligible to apply for retirement in lieu of elimination if they have at least 19 years and 6 months of active federal service.

**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 a narrative reason change. The applicant's Army Military Human Resources Record (AMHRR), the issues, and documents submitted with the application were carefully reviewed.

The applicant contends the SPD code should be changed. SPD codes are three-character alphabetic combinations that identify reasons for, and types of, separation from active duty. The primary purpose of SPD codes is to provide statistical accounting of reasons for separation. They are intended exclusively for the internal use of DoD and the Military Services to assist in the collection and analysis of separation data. SPD Codes are controlled by OSD and then implemented in Army policy AR 635-5-1 (Separation Program Designator (SPD) Codes) to track types of separations. The SPD code specified by Army Regulations for a discharge under Chapter 4, paragraph 4-2b and 4-24a (1), is "BNC ."

The applicant contends the narrative reason for the discharge needs changed. The applicant was separated under the provisions of Chapter 4, paragraph 4-2, and 4-24, AR 600-8-24 with a honorable conditions discharge. The narrative reason specified by Army Regulations for a discharge under this paragraph is "Unacceptable Conduct." Army Regulation 635-8 (Separation Processing and Documents) governs preparation of the DD Form 214 and dictates the entry of the narrative reason for separation, entered in block 28 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 any other reason to be entered under this regulation.

The applicant contends a PTSD and family issues affected behavior which led to the discharge, and being diagnosed with TBI, vertigo, sleep issues, back issues, and thyroid disease. The applicant provided documents reflecting they had a history of Hashimoto's thyroiditis. The applicant did not submit any evidence, other than the applicant's statement, to support the contention the discharge resulted from any medical condition. The applicant's AMHRR is void of a mental status evaluation.

The applicant contends good service, including two combat tours. The applicant provided documents and third party statements from officers and noncommissionned officers to support the applicant's contention. The Board considered the applicant's service accomplishments and the quality of service according to the DODI 1332.28.

The applicant contends the command maltreated and harassed them while going through personal and family issues, and did not assist the applicant with their medical or personal issues. The AMHRR does not include any indication or evidence of arbitrary or capricious actions by the command.

The applicant contends the discharge should have been for medical reasons. The applicant's AMHRR is void of any indication the applicant did not meet medical retention standards or was

pending a medical evaluation board. The record does not include any indication or evidence of arbitrary or capricious actions by the command.

The applicant contends other Soldiers with more serious offenses were allowed to stay in the Army. The DODI 1332.28 provides each case must be decided on the individual merits, and a case-by-case basis, considering the unique facts and circumstances of the case. Additionally, when an applicant cites a prior decision of the ADRB, another agency, or a court, the applicant shall describe the specific principles and facts contained in the prior decision and explain the relevance of the cited matter to the applicant's case. The Board is an independent body, not bound by prior decisions in its review of subsequent cases because no two cases present the same issues.

The applicant contends an upgrade of the discharge will allow the applicant to obtain better employment. The Board does not grant relief to gain employment or enhance employment opportunities.

The applicant requests a copy of their medical records, medical retirement or reinstatement in the Army, and assistance with indebtedness to the government. The applicant's requests do not fall within the purview of this Board. The applicant may request copies of their official records to include medical records through the National Archives. To gain more information on how to request records, the applicant may visit the <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records> or seek assistance through a Veterans' Service Organization. Regarding the medical retirement and indebtedness to the government, the applicant may apply to the Army Board for Correction of Military Records (ABCMR), using the enclosed DD Form 149 regarding this matter. A DD Form 149 may also be obtained from a Veterans' Service Organization.

The applicant identifies issues with a previous ADRB decision. The applicant received a 'de novo' review as part of the Kennedy v. McCarthy Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement, certified on April 26, 2021, wherein the board applied the Department of Defense guidance regarding liberal consideration of possible mitigating factors, such as PTSD, TBI, and other related mental health conditions.

#### **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? **Yes.** The Board reviewed the applicant's DOD and VA health records, applicant's statement, and/or civilian provider documentation and found that the applicant has the following potentially-mitigating diagnoses/experiences: Adjustment Disorder, TBI, Anxiety Disorder NOS, PTSD, Depressive Disorder NOS.

**(2)** Did the condition exist or experience occur during military service? **Yes.** The Board found that the applicant was diagnosed in service with an Adjustment Disorder, TBI, and Anxiety Disorder NOS and is service connected by the VA for PTSD and Depressive Disorder NOS. Service connection establishes that the PTSD and Depressive Disorder NOS also existed during military service.

**(3)** Does the condition or experience actually excuse or mitigate the discharge? **No.** The Board determined, based on the Board Medical Advisor's opine, that the applicant's behavioral health conditions do not mitigate the discharge. The applicant was diagnosed in service with an Adjustment Disorder, TBI, and Anxiety Disorder NOS and is service connected

by the VA for PTSD and Depressive Disorder NOS. Symptoms associated with the applicant's BH conditions include worry, stress, decreased motivation, and difficulties concentrating all of which likely contributed to the applicant's poor work performance. Also, there is a nexus between PTSD and difficulty with authority, as well as a nexus with TBI and irritability, so the applicant's PTSD and TBI likely contributed to the disrespect. While the applicant's BH conditions to include TBI, Anxiety Disorder NOS, PTSD, and Depressive Disorder contributed to the basis of separation, the applicant has an HD so there is no additional mitigation.

**(4)** Does the condition or experience outweigh the discharge? **No.** After applying liberal consideration to the evidence, including the Board Medical Advisor opine, the Board determined that the available evidence did not support a conclusion that the applicant's Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Adjustment Disorder, Traumatic Brain Injury, Anxiety Disorder, and Depressive Disorder outweighed the applicant's discharge as the applicant already holds an honorable characterization of service.

**b.** Response to Contention(s):

**(1)** The applicant contends a PTSD and family issues affected behavior which led to the discharge, and being diagnosed with TBI, vertigo, sleep issues, back issues, and thyroid disease. The Board liberally considered this contention but determined that the available evidence did not support a conclusion that the applicant's Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Adjustment Disorder, Traumatic Brain Injury, Anxiety Disorder, and Depressive Disorder outweighed the applicant's discharge as the applicant already holds an honorable characterization of service.

**(2)** The applicant contends good service, including two combat tours. The Board considered the applicant's twenty-seven years of service, including two combat tours in Iraq, but determined that the applicant's record does not warrant a change to the applicant's narrative reason for separation.

**(3)** The applicant contends the command maltreated and harassed them while going through personal and family issues, and did not assist the applicant with their medical or personal issues. The Board considered this contention but found insufficient evidence to support the assertion that the applicant was mistreated or harassed by command.

**(4)** The applicant contends the discharge should have been for medical reasons. The Board determined that the applicant's request for a medical discharge 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.

**(5)** The applicant contends other Soldiers with more serious offenses were allowed to stay in the Army. The Board considered this contention but determined that the applicant's disrespect offenses and poor work performance warranted separation.

**(6)** The applicant contends the narrative reason for the discharge should be changed. The Board considered this contention but found insufficient mitigating factors to warrant a change to the applicant's narrative reason for separation.

**(7)** The applicant contends the SPD code should be changed. The Board considered this contention but found insufficient mitigating factors to warrant a change to the applicant's SPD code.

(8) The applicant contends an upgrade of the discharge will allow the applicant to obtain better employment. The Board considered this contention but does not grant relief to gain employment or enhance employment opportunities.

(9) The applicant requests a copy of their medical records, medical retirement or reinstatement in the Army, and assistance with indebtedness to the government. The Board determined that the applicant's requests for records, medical retirement or reinstatement, and assistance with indebtedness do 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.

c. The Board denied the request upon finding the separation was both proper and equitable. Notwithstanding the propriety of the applicant's discharge, the Board found that the applicant's DD Form 214, block 26 contains an erroneous Separation Program Designator (SPD) code. In view of the error, the Board directed an administrative correction to block 26 to read BNC, as required by Army Regulations. However, the applicant may request a personal appearance hearing to address further issues before the Board. The applicant is responsible for satisfying the burden of proof and providing documents or other evidence sufficient to support the applicant's contention(s) that the discharge was improper or inequitable.

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.

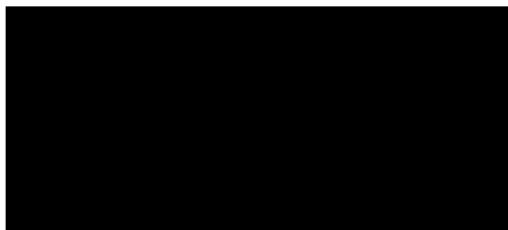
(2) The Board voted not to change the applicant's reason for discharge, as the reason the applicant was discharged was both proper and equitable. The Board directed an administrative change to the applicant's SPD code to match the Unacceptable Conduct narrative reason for separation. The new SPD code will be BNC.

**ARMY DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD CASE REPORT AND DIRECTIVE**  
**AR20210000539**

**10. BOARD ACTION DIRECTED:**

- a. **Issue a New DD-214 / Separation Order:** Yes
- b. **Change Characterization to:** No Change
- c. **Change Reason / SPD Code to:** Unacceptable Conduct / BNC
- d. **Change RE Code to:** No Change
- e. **Change Authority to:** AR 600-8-24

**Authenticating Official:**



**Legend:**

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