

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 SPD code change.

The applicant seeks relief contending, in effect, returning from Afghanistan in May 2013 with anger issues, which were compounded by their parents' health problems. In early February 2013 their spouse and family convinced the applicant to see someone. The applicant informed the chain of command of the issues the applicant was experiencing and went on leave to visit their parents and wounded teammates. When the applicant returned, the applicant elected to see a military and family life counselor, as opposed to a military medical provider because of the stigma of seeing a psychologist, concerned regarding their plans to join a federal agency upon separation would be obstructed. On 17 March 2014, the applicant mistakenly was involved in an incident with police officers while attempting to assist a friend. The applicant was arrested and the officer accused the applicant of attempting to escape. The applicant was not in the position to argue with a police officer and was charged with resisting without violence. The applicant accepts full responsibility for their actions. The applicant attempted to meet with various commanders of their chain of command to talk about the arrest but to no avail. On 16 April 2014, the applicant went to court and was offered a deferred prosecution agreement. The applicant accepted, and the charges were dropped. Despite the civil court relinquishing the charges, the applicant received a general officer memorandum of reprimand (GOMOR), which was filed in their permanent file. At no point during the process was the applicant able to tell their side of the story face to face to any officer within the chain of command. At the end of June, the applicant was informed by the company commander the applicant was going to be eliminated from the Army despite the unqualified resignation awaiting the final signature. The applicant was assigned a Judge Advocate General (JAG) attorney from Fort Benning. The JAG officer and the applicant spoke briefly on the phone and agreed the applicant would submit a Resignation in Lieu of Elimination (RILE) since the applicant was already in the process of separating and interviewing with a federal agency. If it meant expediting the separation process, it was an advantage for all parties involved. The attorney did not inform the applicant the narrative reason for separation on the DD Form 214 would state "unacceptable conduct," and the applicant failed to properly research the consequences of submitting the RILE. If known, the applicant would have requested a board to plead the applicant's case. In October, the applicant was informed the resignation was accepted, the applicant would be released from the Army within 14 days, and the DD Form 214 would indicate "unacceptable conduct," which limited the amount of time to request an appeal. The applicant's PTSD was not recognized at the time of discharge, which was determined to be the leading cause of their conduct. The applicant's case should be given liberal consideration and De a Novo review. The applicant further details the contentions in the applications and the self-authored statements submitted with the applications.

b. Board Type and Decision: In a records review conducted on 26 November 2024, 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, contained an erroneous entry. The Board directed the following administrative correction and reissue of the applicant's DD Form 214, as approved by the separation authority: Block 26, separation code changed to FND.

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: Miscellaneous / General Reasons / AR 600-8-24, Paragraphs 4-2b and 4-24a (1) / JND / Honorable

b. Date of Discharge: 17 October 2014

c. Separation Facts:

(1) Date of Notification of Intent to Separate: 24 June 2014

(2) Basis for Separation: The applicant was informed to show cause for retention on active duty under the provisions of AR 600-8-24, paragraphs 4-2b (5) and 4-2b (8) for the following reasons:

On 17 March 2014, the applicant was disorderly with a policeman near a bar in Destin, Florida. Once in restraints, the applicant attempted to get the handcuffs off, subsequently admitted to the officer the applicant was attempting to escape the patrol vehicle. The misconduct resulted in a General officer Memorandum of Reprimand (GOMOR), 24 April 2014, that was filed in the applicant Army Military Human Resource Record.

Conduct unbecoming an officer, as indicated by the above-referenced GOMOR.

(3) Legal Consultation Date: 25 July 2014

(4) Board of Inquiry (BOI): On 25 July 2014, the applicant conditionally waived consideration of the case before a board of inquiry, contingent upon receiving a characterization of service no less favorable than an honorable discharge.

(5) GOSCA Recommendation Date / Characterization: On 7 August 2014, the GOSCA recommended approval of the applicant's request for Resignation in Lieu of Elimination. / Honorable

(6) DA Board of Review for Eliminations: On 18 September 2014, the Army Ad Hoc Review Board considered the GOSCA's request to involuntary separate the applicant for unacceptable conduct in accordance with AR 600-8-24, Chapter 4-2b and the Resignation in Lieu of Elimination.

(7) Separation Decision Date / Characterization: 26 September 2014 / Honorable

4. SERVICE DETAILS:

a. Date / Period of Appointment: 21 May 2006 / 3 years

- b. Age at Appointment: / Education:** 23 / Bachelor's Degree
- c. Highest Grade Achieved / MOS / Total Service:** O-3 / 18A, 5S Special Forces / 12 years, 7 months, 3 days
- d. Prior Service / Characterizations:** ARNG, 15 March 2002 – 12 May 2006 / HD IADT, 12 June 2002 – 21 August 2002 / NA (Concurrent Service) USAR, 13 May 2006 – 20 May 2006 / NA
- e. Overseas Service / Combat Service:** Mexico, Honduras, SWA / Afghanistan (15 September 2012 – 5 May 2013); Iraq (24 October 2007 – 28 February 2009)
- f. Awards and Decorations:** ACM-CS, BSM-2, ARCOM, AAM-4, ARCAM, NDSM, GWOTSM, ICM-CS, ASR, OSR, NATOMDL, CIB, SFTAB, RGRTAB
- g. Performance Ratings:** 26 January 2007 – 25 January 2010 / Best Qualified
26 January 2010 – 18 April 2013 / Best Qualified
19 April 2013 – 31 January 2014 / Best Qualified
1 February 2014 – 4 July 2014 / Capable (Rater)
5 July 2014 – 14 October 2014 / Proficient (Rater)

h. Disciplinary Action(s) / Evidentiary Record: The applicant provided Chronological Record of Medical Care, 23 May 2013, reflects the applicant requested a medical appointment because sleep issues and mild PTSD like symptoms, although it was too early to make a diagnosis of PTSD.

Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office Offense Report, 25 March 2014, reflects on 17 March 2014, the applicant was arrested for resisting an officer and obstructing without violence. Investigation revealed, a police officer was working an off duty detail and was wearing the duty uniform. The officer was told by an employee at the pub, there was a disturbance in the parking lot. One of the subjects, B. T., ran away when the officer gave the command, "Sheriff's Office, Stop." The individual was caught, with the help of another officer, but continued to resist arrest. The applicant approached the officer who was attempting to gain control of B. T. and told the officer to get off the friend and placed their hands on the officer's right shoulder in an attempt to pull the officer back. Both the applicant and the friend were taken into custody and placed in the police vehicle. The officer observed the applicant in the vehicle with their hands under their knees. The applicant admitted to attempting to escape. The applicant and B. T. were transported to booking in Fort Walton Beach, Florida.

General Officer Memorandum Of Reprimand (GOMOR), 24 April 2014, reflects on 17 March 2014, the applicant was disorderly with police near a bar in Destin, Florida. Once in restraints, the applicant attempted to remove the handcuffs, and subsequently admitted to the officer the applicant was attempting to escape the patrol vehicle. The applicant provided third party letters as rebuttal matters to the GOMOR.

Memorandum, subject: Unqualified Resignation for [Applicant], 28 April 2014, reflects the applicant tendered an Unqualified Resignation to be effective 14 April 2015 or as soon as practical thereafter. After 12 years of service in the Army, the applicant desired to pursue other career opportunities and to serve within another U.S. government organization to continue to serve the country and to support the members of the Special Forces Regiment in another fashion.

ARMY DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD CASE REPORT AND DIRECTIVE

AR20210001177

Two Reports to Suspend Favorable Personnel Actions (FLAG), 28 March 2014 and 23 June 2014, reflects the applicant's favorable personnel actions were suspended because of Adverse Action (AA), effective 17 March 2014, and Involuntary Separation or Discharge (Field Initiated) (BA), effective 16 June 2014.

The applicant provided Okaloosa County, Florida, County Court, No Prosecution, 21 July 2014, reflecting the First Judicial Circuit of Florida announced a No Prosecution against the applicant because the applicant completed the Deferred Prosecution Agreement.

i. Lost Time / Mode of Return: None

j. Behavioral Health Condition(s):

(1) Applicant provided: Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) Progress Notes, from 24 August 2016 to 15 June 2017, reflecting the applicant was diagnosed with PTSD, mild; tinnitus, allergies, and sinusitis; and back pain.

Department of Veterans Affairs Disability Rating Decision, 26 September 2016, reflecting the applicant was rated 30 percent disabled for PTSD (claimed as depression, anxiety, and sleeping conditions).

Vet Center, 6 June 2017, reflecting since January 2016, the applicant was treated for a diagnosis of PTSD, chronic, specifically related to combat military service.

(2) AMHRR Listed: None

5. APPLICANT-PROVIDED EVIDENCE: Application for Correction of Military Record Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty; multiple copies of Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty; two Applications for the Review of Discharge; two self-authored statement; Unqualified Resignation; two third-party character references; Norwich University college transcript; Norwich University Certificate of Participation; memorandum Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment (ADAPT) program; Okaloosa County, Florida court documents; elimination documents; Army National Guard Honorable Discharge Certificate; NGB Report of Separation and Record of Service; ARNG discharge orders; six Officer Evaluation Reports; Officer Record Brief; two Service School Academic Evaluation Reports; Recommendation for Award; DA Official Photograph; electronic mail message; Post Deployment Health Assessment; Chronological Record of Medical Care; VA Progress Notes; Vet Center letter; VA benefits letter; VA Rating Decision; and ADRB Case Report and Directive Case Numbers AR20150000005 and AR20160019279.

6. POST SERVICE ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The applicant is sought out by federal and other agencies as the subject matter expert on Internal Defense and Unconventional Warfare, teaches at the Air Force Operations School; resolved anger issues because of treatment; and volunteers at a pet wellness center.

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) Paragraph 3-5, entitled unqualified resignation, states any officer on active duty for more than 90 days may tender a resignation under this paragraph except when action is pending that could result in a Resignation for the Good of the Service; officer is under a suspension of favorable actions, pending investigation, under charges; or any other unfavorable or derogatory action is pending. Table 3-1, states the resignation will be submitted to the appropriate commander and the commander will review and forward the request at least 90 days prior to the requested separation date for officers with no military service obligation. The command will provide, including but not limited to a recommendation for approval or disapproval; a justification of disapproval; a statement the officer is not under investigation or charges, or being considered for administrative elimination; and a report of any recent misconduct of the officer concerned which had not previously been reported to Human Resources command (HRC). Any misconduct committed or discovered subsequent to endorsement will be reported to HRC (AHRC-OPD-A) in an expeditious manner.

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

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

(6) Paragraph 4-4a, currently in effect, states acquittal or not-guilty findings in military or civilian criminal proceedings, convictions, or punishment in accordance with Article, UCMJ, do not preclude an administrative discharge action.

(7) Paragraph 4-4a, in effect at the time, states an officer will not be considered for involuntary separation because of conduct that has been the subject of judicial proceedings that resulted in an acquittal.

(8) 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 are discharged under the provisions of Army Regulation 600-8-24, Chapter 4-2b, unacceptable conduct.

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 3 prescribes the criteria for enlistment in the Regular Army (RA), U.S. Army Reserve (USAR), or Army National Guard (ARNG) for prior Service applicants. Paragraph 3-13, entitled eligibility of former officers for enlistment, states all applications for enlistment will be sent to the Commanding General, U.S. Army Recruiting Command for enlistment in the RA, USAR, and ARNG, and provides the basic criteria for enlistment.

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

The 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. The 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 applicant contends being rated 30 percent disabled for PTSD and the condition, along with family issues affected behavior, which led to the discharge. The applicant provided several medical documents reflecting the VA rated the applicant 30 percent service-connected disabled for PTSD (claimed as depression, anxiety, and sleeping conditions). The applicant's AMHRR is void of a mental status evaluation.

The applicant contends the event which led to the elimination from the Army was an isolated incident. Army Regulation 600-8-24, paragraph 1-23, in pertinent part, stipulates there are circumstances in which the conduct or performance of duty reflected by a single incident provides the basis for a characterization.

The applicant contends the applicant was not prosecuted by civilian authorities for the offenses, which led to the discharge. Army Regulation 600-8-24, Paragraph 4-4a, in effect at the time, states an officer will not be considered for involuntary separation because of conduct that has been the subject of judicial proceedings that resulted in an acquittal. The applicant provided court documents reflecting the applicant entered into a Deferred Prosecution Agreement with the civilian courts. The applicant did not provide any evidence of a judgment, which resulted in an acquittal.

The applicant contends being eliminated before final action on the applicant's request for unqualified resignation; the PTSD was not considered; the defense attorney failed to provide pertinent information; and the applicant was not given the opportunity to appeal the elimination proceedings. Army Regulation 600-8-24, paragraph 3-5, states any officer on active duty for more than 90 days may tender an unqualified resignation, except when action under a suspension of favorable actions, pending investigation, under charges; or any other unfavorable or derogatory action is pending. The applicant's AMHRR reflects the applicant signed a request for unqualified resignation subsequent to being arrested and charged by civilian authorities and favorable actions being suspended for adverse action. The applicant's AMHRR does not contain any indication or evidence of arbitrary or capricious actions by the command.

The applicant contends good service, including two combat tours.

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 change to the characterization of service to rejoin military service. Officers processed for elimination are not assigned reentry codes, which inform the Army recruiter of the enlisted Soldier's eligibility to reenter the Service. Based on Army Regulation 601-210, paragraph 3-13, for former officers, all applications for enlistment and exceptions will be sent to CG, USAREC.

The applicant contends being sought out by federal and other agencies as the subject matter expert on internal defense and unconventional warfare; teaching at the Air Force Operations School; resolving anger issues because of treatment; and volunteering at a pet wellness center. The Army Discharge Review Board is authorized to consider post-service factors in the recharacterization of a discharge. No law or regulation provides for the upgrade of an unfavorable discharge based solely on the passage of time or good conduct in civilian life after leaving the service. The Board reviews each discharge on a case-by-case basis to determine if post-service accomplishments help demonstrate previous in-service misconduct was an aberration and not indicative of the member's overall character.

The applicant contends their case should be given liberal consideration and a "de novo" review. 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.

The third-party statements provided with the application speak highly of the applicant. They all recognize the applicant's good military service and/or good conduct after leaving the Army.

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: PTSD.

(2) Did the condition exist or experience occur during military service? **Yes.** The Board found the applicant is 70 percent SC for PTSD.

(3) Does the condition or experience actually excuse or mitigate the discharge? **No.** The Board determined, based on the BMA's opine, that the applicant's behavioral health conditions do not mitigate the discharge. The applicant is 70 percent SC for PTSD with an additional diagnosis of Adjustment Disorder that is subsumed by PTSD. However, the applicant's misconduct: conduct unbecoming an officer (disorderly conduct characterized by attempted escape from a police patrol vehicle) is not mitigated by PTSD as the condition did not impair the ability to differentiate between right and wrong and adhere to the right.

(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 outweighed the applicant's medically unmitigated offense of Conduct Unbecoming an Officer - attempting to escape a patrol vehicle.

b. Response to Contention(s):

(1) The applicant contends the narrative reason and SPD code for the discharge need changed. The Board considered this contention and found insufficient mitigating circumstances to warrant a change to the narrative reason for separation. However, the Board determined that the Separation Program Designator Code should change based on updates made to regulation in AR 635-5-1. The new SPD code will be FND, rather than JND.

(2) The applicant contends being rated 30 percent disabled for PTSD and the condition, along with family issues affected behavior, which led to the discharge. 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 outweighed the applicant's medically unmitigated offense of Conduct Unbecoming an Officer - attempting to escape a patrol vehicle.

(3) The applicant contends the event which led to the elimination from the Army was an isolated incident. The Board considered this contention but determined that the applicant's honorable characterization of service and Miscellaneous/General Reasons narrative reason for separation are proper and equitable, even considering the isolated nature of the applicant's misconduct.

(4) The applicant contends the applicant was not prosecuted by civilian authorities for the offenses, which led to the discharge. The Board considered this contention but found that that the applicant voluntarily resigned, thus the final status of the applicant's civilian prosecution did not affect the ultimate outcome of the applicant's military case.

(5) The applicant contends being eliminated before final action on the applicant's request for unqualified resignation; the PTSD was not considered; the defense attorney failed to provide pertinent information; and the applicant was not given the opportunity to appeal the elimination proceedings. The Board considered this contention but determined that the applicant's PTSD did not outweigh the applicant's misconduct.

(6) The applicant contends good service, including two combat tours. The Board considered the applicant's 12 years of service, including numerous awards received and multiple combat tours. The Board found that the applicant's honorable characterization of service and Miscellaneous/General Reasons narrative reason properly reflect the applicant's service.

(7) 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.

(8) The applicant requests a change to the characterization of service to rejoin military service. The Board found that the applicant already holds an honorable characterization and further upgrade is not available.

(9) The applicant contends being sought out by federal and other agencies as the subject matter expert on internal defense and unconventional warfare; teaching at the Air Force Operations School; resolving anger issues because of treatment; and volunteering at a pet wellness center. The Board considered the applicant's post-service accomplishments but determined that they do not outweigh the applicant's Honorable characterization of service and Miscellaneous/General Reasons narrative reason properly reflect the applicant's service.

c. The Board determined that the discharge is, at this time, proper and equitable, in light of the current evidence of record. The applicant may request a personal appearance hearing to address the 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.

However, notwithstanding the propriety of the applicant's discharge, the Board found that the applicant's DD Form 214, Block 26, contained an erroneous entry. The Board directed the following administrative correction and reissue of the applicant's DD Form 214, as approved by the separation authority: Block 26, separation code changed to FND.

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 did find that the applicant's SPD code should change to FND to reflect updates to AR 635-5-1.

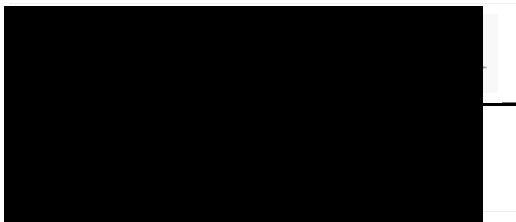
(3) The RE code will not change, as the current code is consistent with the procedural and substantive requirements of the regulation.

10. BOARD ACTION DIRECTED:

- a. **Issue a New DD-214 / Separation Order:** Yes
- b. **Change Characterization to:** No Change
- c. **Change Reason / SPD Code to:** Miscellaneous/General Reasons // FND
- d. **Change Authority to:** AR 600-8-24

Authenticating Official:

12/10/2024



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)

ARMY DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD CASE REPORT AND DIRECTIVE

AR20210001177

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