

1. Applicant's Name: [REDACTED]**a. Application Date:** 20 January 2021**b. Date Received:** 1 February 2021**c. Counsel:** None**2. REQUEST, ISSUES, BOARD TYPE, AND DECISION:**

a. Applicant Requests: The current characterization of service for the period under review is an under other than honorable conditions. The applicant requests an upgrade to honorable, a narrative reason change, and changes to both the separation and reentry codes.

b. Applicant Contention(s)/Issue(s): The applicant requests relief contending, their discharge under other than honorable conditions characterization of service was unjust and requested an upgrade to honorable. They asserted the behavior leading to their discharge occurred after redeployment from Iraq and was directly related to untreated combat-related trauma. The applicant served honorably prior to and during their deployment to Iraq, where they participated in Operation Saber Hammer in August 2007 and received a certificate of recognition. While deployed, they endured daily combat stress and were medically evacuated to Qatar for hernia surgery. After returning from Iraq, the applicant experienced symptoms later diagnosed as Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), including nightmares, night sweats, pain, and increased anger. Since separation, the applicant built a stable life, supported a family affected by PTSD, and maintained steady employment. They earned a CDL (commercial driver's license), advanced from concrete truck driver to plant manager, and later served a public school district supervisor. The applicant requested a discharge upgrade to gain access to Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits and mental health care to support their recovery, their family, and their continued service to their community.

c. Board Type and Decision: In a records review conducted on 01 August 2025, and by a 5-0 vote, the Board determined the discharge is inequitable based on the applicant's length and quality of service, to include combat service, the circumstances surrounding the discharge (OBHI and PTSD diagnoses), and post-service accomplishments. Therefore, the Board voted to grant relief in the form of an upgrade of the characterization of service to Honorable and changed the separation authority to AR 635-200, paragraph 14-12a, the narrative reason for separation to Misconduct (Minor Infractions), with a corresponding separation code of JKN. The Board determined the reentry code is proper and equitable and voted not to change it. Please see **Board Discussion and Determination** section for more detail regarding the Board's decision. Board member names are available upon request.

3. DISCHARGE DETAILS:

a. Reason / Authority / Codes / Characterization: Misconduct (Drug Abuse) / AR 635-200, Chapter 14-12c (2) / JKK / RE-4 / Under Other than Honorable Conditions

b. Date of Discharge: 17 June 2009**c. Separation Facts:**

(1) Date of Notification of Intent to Separate: 8 May 2009

(2) Basis for Separation: On 24 January, 5 May, 7 October, 5 December, 18 and 31 March, and 4 April 2009, the applicant tested positive for marijuana. On 18 March 2009, they tested positive for cocaine. In addition, they were absent without leave (AWOL) from 31 January – 6 February 2008; 2 April – 27 May 2008; 19 August – 7 October 2008; 27 October – 3 December 2008; 12 December 2008 – 6 January 2009; 16 – 18 March 2009; 26 – 31 March 2009; and 4-8 May 2009.

(3) Recommended Characterization: Under Other than Honorable Conditions

(4) Legal Consultation Date: 8 May 2009 / They declined to provide a statement on their behalf.

(5) Administrative Separation Board: On 8 May 2009, the applicant elected to unconditionally waive their right to appear before an administrative separation board.

(6) Separation Decision Date / Characterization: 5 June 2009 / Under Other than Honorable Conditions

4. SERVICE DETAILS:

a. Date / Period of Enlistment/Reenlistment Under Review: 23 November 2005 / 5 years, 20 weeks

b. Age at Enlistment / Education / GT Score: 20 / High School Diploma / 95

c. Highest Grade Achieved / MOS / Total Service: E-4 / 88M10 Motor Transport Operator / 3 years

d. Prior Service / Characterizations: None

e. Overseas Service / Combat Service: SWA / Iraq, 30 June 2006 – 30 September 2007

f. Awards and Decorations: ARCOM, NDSM, ICM-CS, ASR, OSR, CAB, DMB-M

g. Performance Ratings: None

h. Disciplinary Action(s) / Evidentiary Record: The Enlisted Record Brief provides the applicant was flagged, Suspend Favorable Personnel Actions (FLAG), on 31 January 2008, for adverse action (AA). Between 31 January 2008 – 8 May 2009, the applicant went absent without leave (AWOL) on divers occasions and was dropped from rolls twice on 2 May and 19 September 2008. Additionally, there are five event-oriented developmental counseling's documenting their failure to reports and AWOL statuses.

(1) An Offer to Plead Guilty, dated 31 March 2009, provides for the first charge, the applicant plead guilty to the lesser charge of AWOL (Article 86, UCMJ) instead of desertion and plead not guilty to specifications 6 and 7. Charges two, three, and four, the applicant plead guilty. The approval authority accepted the offer to plead guilty on 6 April 2009.

(2) A Summary Court-Martial, dated 8 May 2009, states the applicant was found guilty of five specifications of Article 86, UCMJ (AWOL), four specifications of Article 112a, UCMJ for wrongful use of marijuana, and Article 134, UCMJ (indebtedness) for failing to pay a loan in the

amount of \$641.00. They were sentenced to a reduction to private (E-1); forfeiture of \$933 pay, and confinement for 30 days. On 2 June 2009, the sentence was approved and executed.

i. Lost Time / Mode of Return: Under 10 USC 972: **6 months, 4 days;** 31 January – 5 February 2008; 2 April – 26 May 2008; 19 August – 6 October 2008; 27 October – 2 December 2008; 8 December 2008 – 5 January 2009; 16-17 March 2009; 26-30 March 2009; 4-7 May 2009

j. Behavioral Health Condition(s): The following documents have been provided to the ARBA Medical Advisor, if applicable. See **“Board Discussion and Determination”** for Medical Advisor Details.

(1) Applicant provided: The applicant provided 11 pages of medical health records for review. Their diagnoses are listed, in effect, Adjustment Disorder, Adjustment Insomnia, Posttraumatic Stress Disorder, Adjustment Disorder with Anxious Mood, Adjustment Disorder with Disturbance of Emotions and Conduct, Generalized Anxiety Disorder.

(2) AMHRR provided: A mental status evaluation, dated 7 January 2009, the psychologist remarked the evaluation revealed no evidence of a psychiatric disorder which would explain the behaviors for which the separation was being considered. Screenings for PTSD and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) were negative. The applicant was mentally responsible, able to distinguish right from wrong, had the mental capacity, and was psychiatrically cleared to participate in any proceedings deemed appropriate.

5. APPLICANT-PROVIDED EVIDENCE: Application for the Review of Discharge; Self-Authored Statement; Award; Medical Health Records

6. POST SERVICE ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The applicant built a stable life, supported a family affected by PTSD, and maintained steady employment. They earned a CDL (commercial driver's license), advanced from concrete truck driver to plant manager, and later served a public school district supervisor.

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

a. Office, Secretary of Defense memorandum (Supplemental Guidance to Military Boards for Correction of Military/Naval Records Considering Discharge Upgrade Requests by Veterans Claiming Post Traumatic Stress Disorder), 3 September 2014, directed the Service Discharge Review Boards (DRBs) and Service Boards for Correction of Military/Naval Records (BCM/NRs) to carefully consider the revised PTSD criteria, detailed medical considerations and mitigating

factors when taking action on applications from former service members administratively discharged UOTHC and who have been diagnosed with PTSD by a competent mental health professional representing a civilian healthcare provider in order to determine if it would be appropriate to upgrade the characterization of the applicant's service.

b. Office, Under Secretary of Defense memorandum (Clarifying Guidance to Military Discharge Review Boards and Boards for Correction of Military/Naval Records Considering Requests by Veterans for Modification of their Discharge Due to Mental Health Conditions, Sexual Assault, or Sexual Harassment), 25 August 2017 issued clarifying guidance for the Secretary of Defense Directive to DRBs and BCM/NRs when considering requests by Veterans for modification of their discharges due in whole or in part to mental health conditions, including PTSD; Traumatic Brain Injury; sexual assault; or sexual harassment. Boards are to give liberal consideration to Veterans petitioning for discharge relief when the application for relief is based in whole or in part to those conditions or experiences. The guidance further describes evidence sources and criteria and requires Boards to consider the conditions or experiences presented in evidence as potential mitigation for misconduct that led to the discharge.

c. Office, Under Secretary of Defense memorandum (Guidance to Military Discharge Review Boards and Boards for Correction of Military/Naval Records Regarding Equity, Injustice, or Clemency Determinations), 25 July 2018 issued guidance to Military DRBs and BCM/NRs regarding equity, injustice, or clemency determinations. Clemency generally refers to relief specifically granted from a criminal sentence. However, the guidance applies to more than clemency from a sentencing in a court-martial; it also applies to other corrections, including changes in a discharge, which may be warranted based on equity or relief from injustice.

(1) This guidance does not mandate relief but rather provides standards and principles to guide Boards in application of their equitable relief authority. In determining whether to grant relief on the basis of equity, injustice, or clemency grounds, DRBs shall consider the prospect for rehabilitation, external evidence, sworn testimony, policy changes, relative severity of misconduct, mental and behavioral health conditions, official governmental acknowledgement that a relevant error or injustice was committed, and uniformity of punishment.

(2) Changes to the narrative reason for discharge and/or an upgraded character of service granted solely on equity, injustice, or clemency grounds normally should not result in separation pay, retroactive promotions, and payment of past medical expenses or similar benefits that might have been received if the original discharge had been for the revised reason or had the upgraded service characterization.

d. Army Regulation 15-180 (Army Discharge Review Board), dated 25 September 2019, 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.

e. Army Regulation 600-85 (Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP)) provided a comprehensive alcohol and drug abuse prevention and control policies, procedures, and responsibilities for Soldiers for ASAP services. The ASAP is a command program that emphasizes readiness and personal responsibility. The ultimate decision regarding separation or retention of abusers is the responsibility of the Soldier's chain of command. Abuse of alcohol or the use of illicit drugs by military personnel is inconsistent with Army values and the standards of performance, discipline, and readiness necessary to accomplish the Army's

mission. All Soldiers who are identified as drug abusers, without exception, will be referred to the ASAP counseling center for screening; be considered for disciplinary action under the UCMJ, as appropriate; and be processed for administrative separation in accordance with Army Regulation 635-200.

(1) Unit commanders must intervene early and refer all Soldiers suspected or identified as alcohol and/or drug abusers to the ASAP. The unit commander should recommend enrollment based on the Soldier's potential for continued military service in terms of professional skills, behavior, and potential for advancement. ASAP participation is mandatory for all Soldiers who are command referred. Failure to attend a mandatory counseling session may constitute a violation of Article 86 (Absence Without Leave) of the UCMJ.

(2) Alcohol and/or other drug abusers, and in some cases dependent alcohol users, may be enrolled in the ASAP when such enrollment is clinically recommended. Soldiers who fail to participate adequately in, or to respond successfully to, rehabilitation will be processed for administrative separation and not be provided another opportunity for rehabilitation except under the most extraordinary circumstances, as determined by the Clinical Director in consultation with the unit commander.

(3) Alcohol and/or other drug abusers, and in some cases dependent alcohol users, may be enrolled in the ASAP when such enrollment is clinically recommended. Soldiers who fail to participate adequately in, or to respond successfully to, rehabilitation will be processed for administrative separation and not be provided another opportunity for rehabilitation except under the most extraordinary circumstances, as determined by the Clinical Director in consultation with the unit commander.

(4) All Soldiers who are identified as drug abusers, without exception, will be referred to the ASAP counseling center for screening; be considered for disciplinary action under the UCMJ, as appropriate; and be processed for administrative separation in accordance with Army Regulation 635-200.

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 waiverable and nonwaiverable separations. Table 3-1, defines reentry eligibility (RE) codes:

(1) 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.

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

(3) RE-4 Applies to: Person separated from last period of service with a nonwaiverable disqualification. This includes anyone with a DA imposed bar to reenlistment in effect at time of separation or separated for any reason (except length of service retirement) with 18 or more years active Federal service. Eligibility: Ineligible for enlistment.

g. Army Regulation 631-10 (Absence, Without Leave, Desertion, and Administration of Personnel Involved in Civilian Court Proceedings) provides policies and procedures for reporting unauthorized absentees and deserters, the administering of absent without leave (AWOL) personnel and deserters, returning absentees and deserters to military control and the surrendering of military personnel to civilian law enforcement authorities. When a soldier returns from an absence that is or appears to be unauthorized, the unit commander informally investigates whether disciplinary action should be taken and if the soldier be charge with time lost.

(1) Classification of an absence is dependent upon such factors as the following:

- Order and instructions, written/oral, the Soldier received before/during absence
- Age, military experience, and general intelligence of the Soldier
- Number and type of contact the Soldier had with the military absent
- Complete or incomplete results of a court-martial decision if any

(2) An absence immediately following authorized leave is classified as AWOL. Should the absence subsequently be reclassified, the soldiers leave is corrected to reflect the reclassified absence, except if the absence is caused by the following:

- Mental incapacity
- Detention by civilian authorities
- Early departure of a mobile unit due to operational commitments

h. Army Regulation 635-200 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. It states:

a. A general discharge is a separation from the Army under honorable conditions and is issued to a Soldier whose military record is satisfactory but not sufficiently meritorious to warrant an honorable discharge.

b. An under other-than-honorable-conditions discharge is an administrative separation from the Service under conditions other than honorable and it may be issued for misconduct, fraudulent entry, security reasons, or in lieu of trial by court martial based on certain circumstances or patterns of behavior or acts or omissions that constitute a significant departure from the conduct expected of Soldiers in the Army.

c. A Bad Conduct discharge will only be given to a Soldier pursuant to an approved sentence of general or special court-martial. Enlisted service members and officers with less than six years of service are eligible for a Bad Conduct Discharge. Behaviors such as drug abuse, assault, theft, insubordination, and other actions that violate military law may be punished with a BCD.

d. A Dishonorable discharge is the most severe type of discharge and will be given to a Soldier pursuant only to an approved sentence of general or special court-martial. The appellate review must be completed and affirmed sentence ordered duly executed. Behaviors such as fraud, desertion, treason, espionage, sexual Assault, and murder and other actions may be punished with a dishonorable discharge.

(2) Chapter 14 (Separation for Misconduct) established policy and prescribed procedures for separating members for misconduct. Action will be taken to separate a member for misconduct when it is clearly established that rehabilitation is impractical or unlikely to succeed. A discharge under other than honorable conditions is normally appropriate for a Soldier discharged under this chapter. However, the separation authority may direct a general discharge if such is merited by the Soldier's overall record. A pattern of misconduct consisting of one of the following – discreditable involvement with civil or military authorities, or discreditable conduct and conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline including conduct violating the accepted standards of personal conduct found in the UCMJ, Army regulations, the civil law, and time-honored customs and traditions of the Army. Paragraph 14-12c (2) terms abuse of illegal drugs as serious misconduct. It continues; however, by recognizing relevant facts may mitigate the nature of the offense. Therefore, a single drug abuse offense may be combined with one or more minor disciplinary infractions or incidents of other misconduct and processed for separation under paragraph 14-12a or 14-12b as appropriate.

(3) 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. If Secretarial Authority is granted, it will normally correct the record to show the following:

- Separation Authority: Army Regulation 635-200, Chapter 15
- Separation Code: JFF
- Reenlistment Code: RE1
- Narrative Reason for Separation: Secretarial Plenary Authority
- Character of Service: Honorable

i. 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 "JKK" as the appropriate code to assign enlisted Soldiers who are discharged under the provisions of Army Regulation 635-200, Chapter 14-12c (2), misconduct (drug abuse).

j. Manual for Courts-Martial (2005 Edition), United States, states military law consists of the statutes governing the military establishment and regulations issued thereunder, the constitutional powers of the President and regulations issued thereunder, and the inherent authority of military commanders. Military law includes jurisdiction exercised by courts-martial and the jurisdiction exercised by commanders with respect to nonjudicial punishment. The purpose of military law is to promote justice, to assist in maintaining good orders and discipline in the Armed Forces. Article 86 (absent without leave for more than 30 days) states in the subparagraph, the maximum punishment consists of a dishonorable discharge, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, and confinement for one year. Article 112a (wrongful use of a schedule I controlled substance) states in the subparagraph, the maximum punishment consists of dishonorable discharge, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, and confinement for two years.

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

a. The applicant requests an upgrade to honorable, a narrative reason change, and changes to both the separation and reentry codes. Their Army Military Human Resources

Record (AMHRR), the issues, and documents submitted with the application were carefully reviewed.

(1) A DD Form 214 provides the applicant was discharged under the provisions of AR 635-200, Chapter 14-12c (2) for misconduct (drug abuse) with an under other than honorable conditions characterization of service. The applicant plead guilty at a summary court-martial for having been AWOL on divers occasions between January 2008 – May 2009, totaling 6 months and 4 days of lost time (five specifications of Article 86, UCMJ); for wrongful use of marijuana (four specifications of Article 112a, UCMJ); and for indebtedness (Article 134, UCMJ).

(2) The applicant is contending, an under other than honorable conditions discharge was unjust, citing their post-deployment behavior was caused by untreated PTSD. They served honorably in Iraq, received recognition for their service, and began experiencing PTSD symptoms after returning. Since separation, they have maintained stable employment, supported their family, and sought mental health care. They requested an upgrade to honorable to access VA benefits and to continue their recovery and contributions to the community.

b. Chapter 14 establishes policy and prescribes procedures for separation members for misconduct. Specific categories include minor disciplinary infractions, a pattern of misconduct, commission of a serious offense and convictions by civil authorities. Action will be taken to separate a member for misconduct when it is clearly established that rehabilitation is impracticable or is unlikely to succeed. A discharge under other than honorable conditions is normally appropriate for a Soldier discharged under this chapter. However, the separation authority may direct a general discharge if such is merited by the Soldier's overall record.

c. Published Department of Defense guidance indicates that the guidance is not intended to interfere or impede on the Board's statutory independence. The Board will determine the relative weight of the action that led to the discharge and whether it supports relief or not. In reaching its determination, the Board shall consider the applicant's petition, available records and/or submitted documents in support of the petition.

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's Medical Advisor, a voting member, 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: Variations of Adjustment Disorder and PTSD.

(2) Did the condition exist, or experience occur during military service? **Yes.** Variations of Adjustment Disorder and PTSD

(3) Does the condition or experience actually excuse or mitigate the discharge? **Yes.** The Board's Medical Advisor applied liberal consideration and opined that given the trauma occurred prior to the misconduct and nexus between trauma, avoidance, and drugs, the basis is mitigated.

(4) Does the condition or experience outweigh the discharge? **Yes.** Based on liberally considering all the evidence before the Board, the ADRB determined that the condition or experience outweighed the basis of separation.

b. Prior Decisions Cited: NA – Applies to Personal Appearances only.

c. Response to Contention(s): The applicant requests relief contending, an under other than honorable conditions characterization of service was unjust and asserted the behavior leading to their discharge occurred after redeployment from Iraq and was directly related to untreated combat-related trauma. The applicant is contending, they served honorably prior to and during their deployment to Iraq, where they participated in Operation Saber Hammer in August 2007 and received a certificate of recognition. While deployed, they endured daily combat stress and were medically evacuated to Qatar for hernia surgery. After returning from Iraq, the applicant experienced symptoms later diagnosed as Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), including nightmares, night sweats, pain, and increased anger. The Board liberally considered this contention and determined that it was valid due to the applicant's Post Traumatic Stress Disorder outweighing the applicant's AWOLs and illegal drug use offenses. Therefore, a discharge upgrade is warranted.

(1) The applicant contends, since separation, they have built a stable life, supported a family affected by PTSD, and maintained steady employment. They earned a CDL (commercial driver's license), advanced from concrete truck driver to plant manager, and later served a public school district supervisor. The applicant requested a discharge upgrade to gain access to Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits and mental health care to support their recovery, their family, and their continued service to their community. The Board considered this contention and determined that eligibility for Veteran's benefits, to include educational benefits under the Post-9/11 or Montgomery GI Bill, healthcare or VA loans, do not fall within the purview of the Army Discharge Review Board. Accordingly, the applicant should contact a local office of the Department of Veterans Affairs for further assistance.

d. The Board determined: The Board carefully considered the applicant's request, supporting documents, evidence in the records, a medical review, and published Department of Defense guidance for liberal consideration of discharge upgrade requests. The Board considered the applicant's statement, record of service, the frequency and nature of misconduct, and the reason for separation. The Board found sufficient evidence of in-service mitigating factors (Length, Combat, Quality) and concurred with the conclusion of the medical advising official that given the trauma occurred prior to the misconduct and nexus between trauma, avoidance, and drugs, the basis is mitigated. Based on a preponderance of evidence, the Board determined that the character of service the applicant received upon separation was inequitable.

e. Rationale for Decision:

(1) Published Department of Defense guidance indicates the guidance is not intended to interfere or impede on the Board's statutory independence. The Board determines the relative weight of the action that was the basis for the discharge and whether it supports relief or not. In reaching its determination, the Board considers the applicant's petition, available records and any supporting documents included with the petition.

(2) The Board voted to change the applicant's characterization of service to Honorable because the applicant's Post Traumatic Stress Disorder outweighed the applicant's misconduct of drug abuse and AWOLs. Thus, the prior characterization is no longer appropriate.

(3) The Board voted to change the reason for discharge to Misconduct (Minor Infractions) under the same pretexts, thus the reason for discharge is no longer appropriate. The SPD code associated with the new reason for discharge is JKN.

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(4) 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: Honorable
- c. Change Reason / SPD code to: Misconduct (Minor Infractions)/JKN
- d. Change RE Code to: No Change
- e. Change Authority to: No Change

Authenticating Official:

3/4/2026

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
FTR – Failure to Report

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
UOTHHC – Under Other Than
Honorable Conditions
VA – Department of Veterans
Affairs