

1. Applicant's Name: [REDACTED]

a. **Application Date:** 14 August 2021

b. **Date Received:** 7 September 2021

c. **Counsel:** None

2. REQUEST, ISSUES, BOARD TYPE, AND DECISION:**a. Applicant's Requests and Issues:**

(1) The current characterization of service for the period under review is general (under honorable conditions). The applicant in effect, requests reconsideration of their request for an upgrade to honorable previously denied in Army Discharge Review Board Docket Number AR20130009333, dated 22 January 2014.

(2) The applicant seeks relief contending their mental issues; Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), anxiety, depression, etc.; caused them to withdraw and act out in ways deemed unfit for duty.

b. Board Type and Decision: In a records review conducted on 6 August 2025, and by a 4-1 vote, the Board determined the discharge is inequitable based on the applicant's length and quality of service, to include combat service, and the circumstances surrounding the discharge (PTSD diagnosis). 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.

3. DISCHARGE DETAILS:

a. Reason / Authority / Codes / Characterization: Pattern of Misconduct / Army Regulation 635-200, Paragraph 14-12B / JKA / RE-3 / General (Under Honorable Conditions)

b. Date of Discharge: 25 February 2011

c. Separation Facts:

(1) **Date of Notification of Intent to Separate:** 8 September 2010

(2) **Basis for Separation:** The applicant was informed of the following reasons: received a Company Grade Article 15 for –

- being absent from their place of duty, without authority on or about 8 June 2009 and did so remain absent until on or about 12 June 2009
- willfully disobeying a Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) on or about 8 June 2009
- failing an Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT) on 6 April 2010
- failure to be at their appointed place of duty at the Brigade parade field on 15 May 2020
- failure to report to work call at 0900 hours on 20 May 2010

- making accusations which effected the individual accused and the combat readiness and moral of the troop
- failure to report to Squadron Staff Duty at 0830 hours on 25 May 2010
- failed an APFT on 3 June 2010

(3) Recommended Characterization: General (Under Honorable Conditions)

(4) Legal Consultation Date: 20 January 2011

(5) Administrative Separation Board: on 20 January 2011, the applicant voluntarily waived consideration of their case by an Administrative Separation Board contingent upon receiving a characterization of service no less favorable than general (under honorable conditions).

(6) Separation Decision Date / Characterization: 25 January 2011 / General (Under Honorable Conditions)

4. SERVICE DETAILS:

a. Date / Period of Enlistment: 11 February 2009 / 4 years

b. Age at Enlistment / Education / GT Score: 24 / Less Than HS Diploma / 94

c. Highest Grade Achieved / MOS / Total Service: E-4 / 74D10, Chemical Operations Specialist / 8 years, 6 days

d. Prior Service / Characterizations: None

e. Overseas Service / Combat Service: Germany, SWA / Afghanistan (18 February 2005 – 17 February 2016 and 24 February 2007 – 7 March 2008)

f. Awards and Decorations: ARCOM, AAM, AGCM – 2, NDSM, GWTSM, ASR, NATOMDL / The applicant's AMHRR reflects award of the AGM-CS, however, the award is not reflected on the DD Form 214.

g. Performance Ratings: NA

h. Disciplinary Action(s) / Evidentiary Record:

(1) A DA Forms 2627 (Record of Proceedings under Article 15, Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ)) dated 13 July 2010 reflects the applicant received nonjudicial punishment, in that they, did, on or about 8 June 2009, without authority, absent themselves from their place of duty, to wit: Digital Training Management System class, and did so remain absent until on or about 12 June 2009, in violation of Article 86 (Absence Without Leave); and having received a lawful order from an NCO, to attend Digital Training Management System class, an order which it was their duty to obey, did, on or about 8 June 2009 to 12 June 2009, willfully disobeyed the same, in violation of Article 91 (Willfully Disobeying Superior NCO), UCMJ. Their punishment consisted of a reduction in rank/grade from specialist/E-4 to private first class/E-3, forfeiture of seven days pay \$433.00, and 14 days of extra duty and restriction. The applicant elected to appeal and elected not to submit additional matters. On 20 July 2009, the Judge Advocate states the proceedings were conducted in accordance with law and regulation, and the

punishments imposed were not unjust nor disproportionate to the offense committed. On 28 July 2009, the applicant's battalion commander denied the applicant's appeal.

(2) Six DA Forms 4856 (Developmental Counseling Form) dated 1 March 2010 through 27 May 2010, reflects the applicant received multiple counselings for various acts of misconduct, to include; failure to pay Military Star Card bill, occurrences of failure to report, disobeying an NCO, false accusations/statement, and improper wear of the Beret.

(3) A DA Forms 2627 (Record of Proceedings under Article 15, UCMJ, dated 3 June 2010 reflects the applicant received nonjudicial punishment, in that they, did at or near Fort Bragg, NC, on or about 15 May 2010, failed to go at the time prescribed to their appointed place of duty, to wit: 0900 hours at the Brigade parade field, in violation of Article 86 (Absence Without Leave), UCMJ. Their punishment consisted of a reduction in rank/grade from specialist/E-4 to private first class/E-3 and 14 days of extra duty. The applicant elected not to appeal. [Note: only page 1 is in evidence for review.]

(4) A DA Form 4856 dated 3 June 2010, reflects the applicant received event oriented counseling from their company commander informing the applicant that based on their numerous occasions of misconduct and poor military hearing, they are recommending them for separation due to patterns of misconduct. The commander states the applicant has been verbally warned and had multiple counselings informing them of their conduct. With the amount of time in service the applicant should know better. The applicant disagree with the information, did not wish to provide remarks, and signed the form.

(5) A DA Form 4856 dated 4 June 2010, reflects the applicant received event oriented counseling for an APFT failure. The applicant agreed with the information and signed the form.

(6) A Medical Command Form 4038 (Report of Behavioral Health Evaluation) dated 1 July 2010 reflects the applicant is being considered for administrative separation because of misconduct. The psychologist states the applicant has the mental capacity to understand and participate in the proceedings, was mentally responsible, and meets the retention requirements. The applicant's Axis I (Psychiatric Conditions) diagnosis is shown as Occupational Problem. Treatment at this time is not deemed to be necessary. The applicant is psychologically cleared for any administrative action deemed appropriate by command. The applicant was screened for PTSD and traumatic brain injury, these conditions are either not present or, if present, do not meet the criteria for a medical evaluation board. There is no evidence of mental defect, emotional illness, or psychiatric disorder of sufficient severity to warrant disposition through military medical channels.

(7) A memorandum, Headquarters and Headquarter Company, 519th Military Intelligence Battalion (Rear Detachment)(Provisional), subject: Separation under Army Regulation 635-200, Paragraph 14-12b (Patterns of Misconduct), dated 8 September 2010, reflects the applicant's company commander notifying them of their initiating action to separate them for a pattern of misconduct. The reasons for the proposed action is described above in paragraph 3c(2). The commander recommended the applicant's service be characterized as general (under honorable conditions). On the same day, the applicant acknowledged receipt of the notification memorandum.

(8) In the applicant's memorandum, subject: Request for Conditional Waiver under Army Regulation 635-200 Administrative Board Procedures, dated 20 January 2011, the applicant acknowledged they have been advised by their consulting counsel of the basis for the contemplated action to separate them for a pattern of misconduct, and its effects, of the rights available to them, and of the effect of any action taken by them in waiving their rights.

(a) They understand that they are entitled to have their case considered by an administrative separation board because they will have six or more years of active and reserve service at the time of notification of separation. They, therefore, voluntarily waived consideration of their case by an administrative separation board contingent upon them receiving a characterization of service of no less favorable than general (under honorable conditions).

(b) They are making this request of their own free will and have not been subjected to any coercion whatsoever by any person. They understand they may expect to encounter substantial prejudice in civilian life if a general discharge under honorable conditions is issued to them.

(c) They elected to submit a statement in their own behalf, stating, receiving a general discharge is a bit too harsh as an honorable discharge seems more suitable. They have served almost eight years and deployed to Afghanistan twice. They have been treated for PTSD which evolved after their second deployment. The evidence they did have to prove their innocence of the accusations has either been destroyed, tampered with or even taken to Afghanistan with their personnel file. They waive the board and respectfully except their general discharge and plead they be granted a chance to move on to better opportunities.

(9) A memorandum, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 519th Military Intelligence Battalion (Rear Detachment)(Provisional), subject: Separation of [Applicant], dated 20 January 2011, reflects the applicant's company commander's recommendation to separate them from the Army prior to the expiration of their current term of service with a General Discharge. The commander states they do not consider it feasible or appropriate to accomplish other disposition because the applicant shows a clear lack of rehabilitation.

(10) A memorandum, 108th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, subject: Separation under Army Regulation 635-200, Paragraph 14-12b, [Applicant], dated 25 January 2011, reflects the separation authority thoroughly reviewed the discharge packet of the applicant and directed the applicant be separated and issued a General (Under Honorable Conditions) Discharge.

(11) On 25 February 2011 the applicant was discharged from the Regular Army. Their DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) provides they completed 8 years and 6 days of net active service this period. Their DD Form 214 shows in:

- item 4a (Grade, Rate or Rank) – Private First Class
- item 4b (Pay Grade) – E-3
- item 12i (Effective Date of Pay Grade) – 1 December 2010
- item 18 (Remarks) – MEMBER HAS COMPLETED FIRST FULL TERM OF SERVICE
- item 24 (Character of Service) – General (Under Honorable Conditions)
- item 25 (Separation Authority) – Army Regulation 635-200, Paragraph 14-12B
- item 26 (Separation Code) – JKA
- item 27 (Reentry Code) – 3
- item 28 (Narrative Reason for Separation) – Pattern of Misconduct

(12) A DD Form 293 (Application for the Review of Discharge from the Armed Forces of the United States) dated 1 May 2013, reflects the applicant's request to upgrade the characterization of service to honorable. The applicant states it has been two years since their date of separation. Since that time they have worked two jobs, been volunteering for their community through their church, and have stayed out of trouble. They have no criminal background and have made changes to better themselves since their separation. They are

wishing to become a police officer someday and feel their current discharge is preventing them from that goal. They also wish to further their education and attend a university or college using their GI Bill, but without an honorable discharge they are unable to do so.

(13) On 22 January 2014, the Army Discharge Review Board denied the applicant's request to upgrade their discharge to honorable. The Board determined –

- after examining the applicant's record of service, military records, the document and the issues submitted with the application, there are insufficient mitigating factors to merit an upgrade of their discharge
- the record confirms the applicant's discharge was appropriate because the quality of their service was not consistent with the Army's standards for acceptable personal conduct and performance of duty by military personnel
- it brought discredit on the Army and was prejudicial to good order and discipline; by the pattern of misconduct, they diminished the quality of their service below that meriting a fully honorable discharge
- their record of service was marred by two incidents of nonjudicial punishment under the provisions of Article 15, UCMJ for multiple violations of the UCMJ and several negative counseling statements
- the applicant provided no independent corroborating evidence demonstrating that either the command's action was erroneous or that the applicant's service mitigated the misconduct or poor duty performance
- the record contains no indication or evidence of arbitrary or capricious actions by the command and all requirements of law and regulation were met and the rights of the applicant were fully protected throughout the separation process

i. Lost Time / Mode of Return: NA

j. Behavioral Health Condition(s):

(1) Applicant provided: On 11 March 2022 the Army Review Boards Agency requested the applicant provide their medical documents to support their mental health issues (PTSD, anxiety, and depression), as of this date there has been no response.

(2) AMHRR Listed: Report of Behavioral Health Evaluation reflecting an Axis I diagnosis of Occupational Problem.

5. APPLICANT-PROVIDED EVIDENCE: None

- DD Form 293 (Application for the Review of Discharge from the Armed Forces of the United States)
- Two 3rd Party Character Statements

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

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

a. Title 10, U.S. Code, Section 1553, (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, Title 10, U.S. Code, Section 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 PTSD, 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 (DoD) 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 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; Title 10, U.S. Code, Section 1553; and DoD Directive 1332.41 and Instruction 1332.28.

d. Army Regulation 635-200 (Active Duty Enlisted Administrative Separations) dated 6 September 2011 set policies, standards, and procedures to ensure the readiness and competency of the force while providing for the orderly administrative separation of Soldiers for a variety of reasons. Readiness is promoted by maintaining high standards of conduct and performance.

(1) An Honorable discharge is a separation with honor and is appropriate when the quality of the Soldier's service generally has met the standards of acceptable conduct and performance of duty for Army personnel or is otherwise so meritorious that any other characterization would be clearly inappropriate.

(2) 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.

(3) A Under Other Than Honorable Conditions Discharge is an administrative separation from the Service under conditions other than honorable. It may be issued for misconduct, fraudulent entry, security reasons, or in lieu of trial by court-martial.

(4) Chapter 1 (General Provisions) sets policies, standards, and procedures to ensure readiness and competency of the force while providing for the orderly administrative separation of Soldiers, it provides in pertinent part:

(a) When a separation is ordered, the approved proceedings will be sent to the commander who has the Soldier's records for separation processing. The original copy of the proceedings will be filed in the permanent part of the Soldiers official personnel record.

(b) Army leaders at all levels must be continually aware of their obligation to provide purpose, direction, and motivation to Soldiers. It is essential that Soldiers who falter, but have the potential to serve honorably and well, be given every opportunity to succeed. Except as otherwise indicated, commanders must make maximum use of counseling and rehabilitation before determining that a Soldier has no potential for further useful service and ensure it occurs prior to initiating separation proceedings for reason to include Minor Disciplinary Infractions (14-12a) or a Pattern of Misconduct (14-12b).

(5) 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. Paragraph 14-12b (Pattern of Misconduct), stated, 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.

(6) Paragraph 14-3 (Characterization of Service or Description of Separation) prescribed 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.

(7) Chapter 15 (Secretarial Plenary Authority), currently in effect, provides explicitly for separation under the prerogative of the Secretary of the Army. Secretarial plenary separation authority is exercised sparingly and seldom delegated. Ordinarily, it is used when no other provision of this regulation applies, and early separation is clearly in the Army's best interest.

Separations under this paragraph are effective only if approved in writing by the Secretary of the Army or the Secretary's approved designee as announced in updated memoranda. Secretarial separation authority is normally exercised on a case-by-case basis.

e. Army Regulation 635-5-1 (Separation Program Designator (SPD) Codes) 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 "JKA" as the appropriate code to assign enlisted Soldiers who are discharged under the provisions of Army Regulation 635-200, Chapter 14, paragraph 12b, (Pattern of Misconduct).

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 DoD Instructions 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. Manual for Courts-Martial, United States (2008 Edition) stated, 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 order and discipline in the Armed Forces. Appendix 12 (Maximum Punishment Chart) Manual for Courts-Martial shows the maximum punishments include punitive discharge for violating the following Article 86 (Absence Without Leave) and Article 91 (Willfully Disobeying NCO).

8. SUMMARY OF FACT(S):

a. The Army Discharge Review Board considers applications for upgrade as instructed by Department of Defense Instruction 1332.28.

b. A review of the available evidence provides the applicant receive multiple occurrences of developmental counsel for various acts of misconduct and was involuntarily discharged from the U.S. Army. Their DD Form 214 provides they were discharged with a character of service of general (under honorable conditions) for a pattern of misconduct. They completed 8 years and 6 days of net active service this period and completed their first full term of service; however, they did not complete their 4-year reenlistment contractual obligation

c. 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.

d. The applicant's AMHRR does not reflect documentation of a diagnosis of PTSD, anxiety, or depression, a Report of Behavioral Health Evaluation reflects an Axis I diagnosis of Occupational Problem. The applicant did not provide medical documents in support of their application.

e. 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: Adjustment Disorder with Anxiety and Depressed Mood, Depression, PTSD

(2) Did the condition exist, or experience occur during military service? **Yes.** Adjustment Disorder with Anxiety and Depressed Mood, Depression, combat

(3) Does the condition or experience actually excuse or mitigate the discharge? **Partial.** The Board's Medical Advisor applied liberal consideration and opined that given the trauma occurred prior to misconduct and nexus between trauma, avoidance, and difficulty with authority, the basis is partially mitigated; FTRs and disobeying. However, there is no indication at this time that failing his APFT and making accusations was secondary to PTSD.

(4) Does the condition or experience outweigh the discharge? **Yes.** After applying liberal consideration to the evidence, including the Board Medical Advisor's opine, the Board determined that the applicant's condition or experience outweighed the listed basis for separation for the aforementioned reasons

b. Prior Decisions Cited: None

c. Response to Contention: The applicant contends their mental issues, PTSD, anxiety, depression, etc.; caused them to withdraw and act out in ways deemed unfit for duty. The Board acknowledged this contention and the applicant's BH diagnosis.

d. The Board determined the discharge is inequitable based on the applicant's length and quality of service, to include combat service, and the circumstances surrounding the discharge

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(PTSD diagnosis). 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.

e. Rationale for Decision:

(1) 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 misconduct and nexus between trauma, avoidance, and difficulty with authority, the basis is partially mitigated; FTRs and disobeying. Based on a preponderance of evidence, the Board determined that the character of service the applicant received upon separation was inequitable and warranted an upgrade.

(2) 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

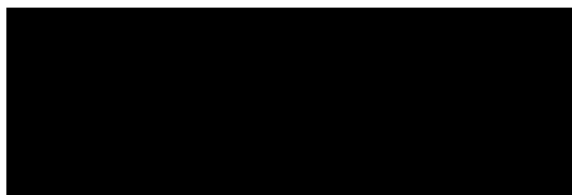
(3) The RE code will not change, as the current code is consistent with the procedural and substantive requirements of the regulation.

10. BOARD ACTION DIRECTED:

- a. Issue a New DD-214: Yes**
- b. Change Characterization to: Honorable**
- c. Change Reason / SPD Code to: Misconduct (Minor Infractions)/JKN**
- d. Change RE Code to: No change**
- e. Change Authority to: AR 635-200**

Authenticating Official:

3/3/2026



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

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