

1. Applicant's Name: [REDACTED]**a. Application Date:** 16 December 2023**b. Date Received:** 16 December 2023**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 requests an upgrade to Honorable and a change of their narrative reason for separation.

(2) The applicant seeks relief contending after their deployment to Afghanistan they started to have symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) from combat. They started to drink to cover up the demons of combat and it started to affect their ability to be a paratrooper. They eventually got demoted from the rank/grade of sergeant/E-5 to specialist/E-4 and that made things even worse. Eventually they sought help and continued to try and overcome PTSD. They had a permanent change of station which took them away from their battle buddies, losing part of their PTSD support as they were in a new assignment and did not know anyone. They failed the Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) for a second time. Their counselor started separation paperwork thinking being out of the Army would help heal their PTSD. They had an honorable discharge prior to their reenlistment and they were on the Commandant's List, graduating from their noncommissioned officer (NCO) academy in 2008.

b. Board Type and Decision: In a records review conducted on 08 October 2025, and by a 5-0 vote, the Board voted to upgrade the characterization of service to Honorable. The Board did not change the applicant's reason for discharge or accompanying SPD code as the reason the applicant was discharged was both proper and equitable. The RE code will not change, as the current code is consistent with the procedural and substantive requirements of the regulation. Please see Board Discussion and Determination section for more detail regarding the Board's decision. Board member names available upon request.

3. DISCHARGE DETAILS:

a. Reason / Authority / Codes / Characterization: Alcohol Rehabilitation Failure / Army Regulation 635-200, Chapter 9 / JPD / RE-4 / General (Under Honorable Conditions)

b. Date of Discharge: 23 August 2011**c. Separation Facts:**

(1) **Date of Notification of Intent to Separate:** 8 August 2011

(2) **Basis for Separation:** the applicant was enrolled in the ASAP on 15 July 2010 and was diagnosed as Alcohol Dependent. It was determined after careful consideration with the rehabilitation team, that further attempts are not practical, and determined that the applicant is an alcohol rehabilitation failure. On 12 March 2011, the applicant was arrested for driving under the influence.

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

(4) Legal Consultation Date: 9 August 2011

(5) Administrative Separation Board: NA

(6) Separation Decision Date / Characterization: 9 August 2011 / General (Under Honorable Conditions)

4. SERVICE DETAILS:

a. Date / Period of Extension of Reenlistment: The applicant extended the most recent reenlistment by a period of 7 months on 15 May 2010, giving the applicant a new Expiration Term of Service (ETS) of: 5 February 2013.

b. Age at Extension of reenlistment / Education / GT Score: 24 / HS Graduate / 115

c. Highest Grade Achieved / MOS / Total Service: E-5 / 88M1O, Motor Transport Operator / 5 years, 5 months, 21 days

d. Prior Service / Characterizations: None

e. Overseas Service / Combat Service: SWA / Afghanistan (22 January 2007 – 14 April 2008 and 15 August 2009 – 25 June 2010)

f. Awards and Decorations: ARCOM-3, AAM, NATOMDL-2, NDSM, ACM-2CS, GWTSM, NCOPDR, ASR, OSR-2

g. Performance Ratings:

- 1 May 2008 – 30 April 2009 / Among the Best
- 2 May 2009 – 5 March 2010 / Fully Capable

h. Disciplinary Action(s) / Evidentiary Record:

(1) A DA Form 2166-8 (NCO Evaluation Report) covering the period 2 May 2009 – 5 March 2010, reflects in –

- Part I (g) (Reason for Submission) – Relief for Cause
- Part IV (a) (Army Values/Attributes/Skills/Actions) – “NO” for Duty, Integrity and Personal Courage; with comments, in part, lacked the personal courage and integrity to do the right thing when presented with an immoral and illegal choice
- Part IV(b) (Competence) – “NEEDS IMPROVEMENT (Some)” demonstrated poor judgment when faced with a morally challenging situation
- Part IV(d) (Leadership) – “NEEDS IMPROVEMENT (Some)” failed to set the proper example for [Applicant's] Paratrooper as an NCO
- Part V (Overall Performance and Potential) – Fully Capable
- Part V (e) (Senior Rater Bullet Comments) – in part, “needs development in the area of decision making to perform in a higher capacity”

(2) A DA Form 4856 (Developmental Counseling Form) dated 28 June 2011, reflects the applicant received counseling from their company commander for the recommendation of a chapter 9 (Alcohol or Other Drug Abuse Rehabilitation Failure) separation. The Key Points of

Discussion reflects the applicant was enrolled in ASAP on 15 July 2010 while at Fort Bragg, NC for alcohol dependence and was sent to inpatient treatment from 19 August 2010 to 6 September 2010. They were assessed on 13 May 2011 at the ASAP facility at Fort Irwin, CA after arriving as a permanent change of station gain. The Counselor at the ASAP had made a recommendation that the applicant receive long term residential treatment. The commander states the applicant has struggled with abstinence during their enrollment in ASAP despite receiving inpatient treatment. The applicant's prognosis for continued abstinence and sobriety while on active duty is poor. The commander informed the applicant that if they receive a discharge under chapter 9, they will receive treatment by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Health Care that provides longer term residential treatment and will address all co-occurring conditions.

(3) Two DA Forms 4187 (Personnel Action) dated 8 July 2011 and 11 July 2011, reflects the applicant's unit changed their duty status from Present for Duty to Confined Civil Authorities, effective 14:36 hour, 7 July 2011 and from Confined Civil Authorities to Present for Duty, effective 1800 hours, 8 July 2011. Section IV (Remarks) reflects, in part, the applicant was charged with driving under the influence.

(4) A DA Form 4856 (Developmental Counseling Form) dated 19 July 2011, reflects the applicant received event oriented counseling for failure to report and received a lawful order to move into the barracks.

(5) A memorandum, 2nd Transportation Company, 1916th Support Battalion, subject: Separation under Army Regulation 635-200, Chapter 9, Alcohol or Other Drug Rehabilitation Failure, [Applicant], dated 8 August 2011, reflects the applicant's company commander notified the applicant of their intent to separate them under the provisions of Army Regulation 635-200, chapter 9, for alcohol rehabilitation failure, with a recommended characterization of service of general (under honorable conditions). On the same day, the applicant's acknowledgement of receipt of separation notice and of the rights available to them.

(6) On 9 August 2011, the applicant completed their election of rights signing they had been advised by consulting counsel of the basis for the contemplated action to separate them under Army Regulation 635-200, chapter 9, and its effects, of the rights available to them, and the effects of any action taken by them in waiving their rights. The applicant understood they may expect to encounter substantial prejudice in civilian life if a general (under honorable conditions) discharge is issued to them, They further understood that as a result of issuance of a discharge Under Other Than Honorable Conditions they may be ineligible for many or all benefits as a veteran under both Federal and State laws. They elected not to submit statements on their own behalf and waived consulting counsel.

(7) A memorandum, 2nd Transportation Company, 1916th Support Battalion, subject: Commander's Report – Proposed Separation under Army Regulation 635-200, Chapter 9, Alcohol or Other Drug Rehabilitation Failure, [Applicant], dated 9 August 2011, the applicant's company commander recommended the applicant be separated from the Army prior to their expiration of their current term of service. The company commander states they do not consider it feasible or appropriate to accomplish other disposition as it is unlikely that further efforts to rehabilitate the applicant would produce a quality Soldier.

(8) A memorandum, 1916th Support Battalion, 916th Support Brigade, subject: Separation under Army Regulation 635-200, Chapter 9, Alcohol or Drug Abuse Rehabilitation Failure, [Applicant] dated 9 August 2011, reflects the separation authority reviewed the separation packet of the applicant and after careful consideration of all matters directed the

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applicant be separated from the U.S. Army with a characterization of General (Under Honorable Conditions).

(9) A DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty), reflects the applicant was discharged from the U.S. Army on 23 August 2011 and shows in –

- item 4a (Grade, Rate or Rank) – Specialist
- item 4b (Pay Grade) – E-4
- item 12i (Effective Date of Pay Grade) – 12 March 2010
- item 18 (Remarks) – in part, 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, Chapter 9
- item 26 (Separation Code) – JPD
- item 27 (Reentry Code) – RE-4
- item 28 (Narrative Reason for Separation) – Alcohol Rehabilitation Failure

i. **Lost Time / Mode of Return:** 1 Day (7 July 2011 – 8 July 2011) / Released from Civil Authorities

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

(1) Applicant provided:

- Civilian Hospital Discharge Summary, dated 16 September 2010, reflecting discharge diagnoses of PTSD and Alcohol Dependency
- Consult Report, dated 8 November 2010, reflecting a Provisional Diagnosis of Alcohol Dependence
- Standard Form 600 (Chronological Record of Medical Care), dated 6 July 2011, reflecting Problems, Chronic of Alcohol Dependence and Adjustment Disorder
- VA Letter reflecting an Issue/Contention of PTSD with depressive disorder evaluated at 70-percent.

(2) AMHRR Listed: None

5. APPLICANT-PROVIDED EVIDENCE:

- DD Form 293 (Application for the Review of Discharge from the Armed Forces of the United States)
- Civilian Hospital Discharge Summary
- Consult Report
- Standard Form 600
- DD Form 214
- VA Letter

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 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. 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.

c. 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.

d. 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.

e. 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.

f. Army Regulation 600-85 (Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP)) governs the program and identifies Army policy on alcohol and other drug abuse, and responsibilities. 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. 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. Paragraph 3 (Policy) stated alcohol abuse and resulting misconduct will not be condoned. On-duty impairment due to alcohol consumption will not be tolerated. Impairment of Soldiers is defined as having a blood alcohol content equal to or greater than 0.05 grams of alcohol per 100 milliliters of blood. To remain in the Army, all Soldier who identified as alcohol abusers must successfully complete an ASAP education and/or rehabilitation program. Soldiers who fail to be rehabilitated will be processed for separation under the provisions of Army Regulation 635-200, chapter 9.

g. Army Regulation 635-200 (Active Duty Enlisted Administrative Separations), dated 17 December 2009, 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 9 (Alcohol or Other Drug Abuse Rehabilitation Failure) provided the authority and outlined the procedures for discharging individuals because of alcohol or other drug abuse rehabilitation failure. Discharge is based upon alcohol or other drug abuse such as illegal, wrongful, or improper use of any controlled substance, alcohol or other drug when the commander determines that further rehabilitation efforts are not practical, rendering the Soldier a rehabilitation failure. This determination will be made in consultation with the rehabilitation team. A Soldier who is enrolled in the ASAP for alcohol/drug abuse may be separated because

of inability or refusal to participate in, cooperate in, or successfully complete such a program. Initiation of separation proceedings is required for Soldiers designated as alcohol/drug rehabilitation failures.

(5) Paragraph 9-4 (Characterization of Service or Description of Separation) stated service of Soldiers discharged under this section will be characterized as honorable or under honorable conditions unless the Soldier is in entry-level status and an uncharacterized description of service is required.

(6) 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. If Secretarial Authority is granted 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

h. 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 "JPD" as the appropriate code to assign enlisted Soldiers who are discharged under the provisions of Army Regulation 635-200, Chapter 9, separation for alcohol rehabilitation failure.

i. 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.

j. 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 111 (Drunken driving).

k. Title 38, U.S. Code, Sections 1110 and 1131, permits the VA to award compensation for a medical condition which was incurred in or aggravated by active military service. The VA, however, is not required by law to determine medical unfitness for further military service. The VA, in accordance with its own policies and regulations, awards compensation solely on the basis that a medical condition exists and that said medical condition reduces or impairs the social or industrial adaptability of the individual concerned. Consequently, due to the two concepts involved, an individual's medical condition, although not considered medically unfitting for military service at the time of processing for separation, discharge, or retirement, may be sufficient to qualify the individual for VA benefits based on an evaluation by the agency.

8. SUMMARY OF FACT(S):

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

b. A review of the available evidence provides the applicant received notification of separation under the provisions of Army Regulation 635-200, chapter 9, Alcohol or Other Drug Abuse Rehabilitation Failure and was discharged from the U.S. Army. Their DD Form 214 indicates their discharge under the provisions of Army Regulation 635-200, chapter 9, Alcohol Rehabilitation Failure, with a characterization of service of General (Under Honorable Conditions). The applicant completed 5 years, 5 months and 21 days of net active service and completed their first full term of service; however, they did not complete their 7-month extension of their latest reenlistment obligation.

c. Chapter 9 outlines the procedures for discharging individuals because of alcohol or other drug abuse rehabilitation failure. Discharge is based upon alcohol or other drug abuse such as illegal, wrongful, or improper use of any controlled substance, alcohol or other drug when the commander determines that further rehabilitation efforts are not practical, rendering the Soldier a rehabilitation failure. This determination will be made in consultation with the rehabilitation team. A Soldier who is enrolled in the ASAP for alcohol/drug abuse may be separated because of inability or refusal to participate in, cooperate in, or successfully complete such a program. Initiation of separation proceedings is required for Soldiers designated as alcohol/drug rehabilitation failures.

d. 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/experiences: PTSD, Adjustment DO with depressed mood, and Adjustment DO.

(2) Did the condition exist, or experience occur during military service? **Yes.** The Board's Medical Advisor found the applicant is 70 percent Service Connected (SC) for PTSD.

(3) Does the condition or experience actually excuse or mitigate the discharge? **Partial.** The Board's Medical Advisor applied liberal consideration and opined that based on the available information, it is the opinion of the Agency BH advisor that the applicant has a BH condition, PTSD, which partially mitigates the alcohol rehabilitation failure. Full medical mitigation is not present given that applicant has a long history of excessive alcohol use which preceded their entry into the Army and subsequent deployment. According to the medical records, the applicant was arrested for DUI twice as a teenager prior to entering the Army. However, given the possibility that the alcohol use was exacerbated by PTSD, upgrade based on medical mitigation is supported.

(4) Does the condition or experience outweigh the discharge? **Yes.** Based on liberally considering all the evidence before the Board, the ADRB determined that applicant's medical diagnoses/experiences outweighed the DUI, basis of separation.

b. Prior Decisions Cited: None

c. Response to Contention(s):

(1) The applicant contends after their deployment to Afghanistan they started to have symptoms of PTSD from combat. They started to drink to cover up the demons of combat and it started to affect their ability to be a paratrooper. Eventually they sought help and continued to try and overcome PTSD. They had a permanent change of station which took them away from their battle buddies, losing part of their PTSD support as they were in a new assignment and did not know anyone. The Board considered this contention during deliberations.

(3) The applicant contends they failed the ASAP for a second time. Their counselor started separation paperwork thinking being out of the Army would help heal their PTSD. The Board noted this contention during deliberations.

d. The Board determined: Based on a preponderance of evidence, the Board determined that the character of service the applicant received upon separation was inequitable. The Board members noted the applicant's in-service factors of length, quality and combat and BH condition, PTSD, outweighed the DUI basis of separation. Specifically, the applicant's PTSD mitigated the alcohol rehabilitation failure. Therefore, the Board voted to upgrade the characterization of service to Honorable. The Board did not change the applicant's reason for discharge or accompanying SPD code as the reason the applicant was discharged was both proper and equitable. The RE code will not change, as the current code is consistent with the procedural and substantive requirements of the regulation.

e. Rationale for Decision:

(1) The Board voted to change the applicant's characterization of service to Honorable because the applicant's PTSD mitigated the alcohol rehabilitation failure. Therefore, the current discharge is no longer appropriate.

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(2) The Board voted not to change the applicant's reason for discharge or accompanying SPD code as the reason the applicant was discharged was both proper and equitable.

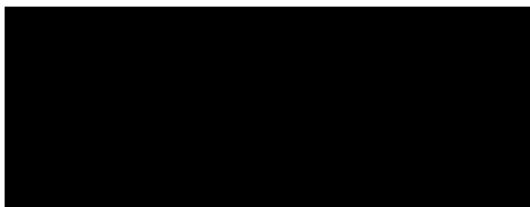
(3) The RE code will not change, as the current code is consistent with the procedural and substantive requirements of the regulation.

10. BOARD ACTION DIRECTED:

- a. Issue a New DD-214 / Separation Order: Yes
- b. Change Characterization to: Honorable
- c. Change Reason / SPD code to: No change
- d. Change RE Code to: No change
- e. Change Authority to: No change

Authenticating Official:

11/11/2025

**Legend:**

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

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

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

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