DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

Application for Correction of Coast Guard Record of:

BCMR Docket No. 1997-175

FINAL DECISION

This is a proceeding under the provisions of section 1552 of title 10, United States Code. It was commenced on September 8, 1997, upon the BCMR's receipt of the applicant's request for correction.

This final decision, dated July 9, 1998, is signed by the three duly appointed members who were designated to serve as the Board in this case.

The applicant, a radarman second class (RD2; pay grade E-5), asked the Board to correct her record by modifying her March 6, 1997 agreement to extend her enlistment to show that she extended for a period of 36 months, rather than 34 months. She also asked the Board to award her a selective reenlistment bonus (SRB) on the basis of the 36 month extension.

EXCERPTS FROM THE RECORD AND SUBMISSIONS

The applicant stated that she was improperly counseled when she was advised that she would be eligible for a Zone A SRB if she extended her enlistment for 34 months. She stated that although she wanted to extend for 36 months, the yeoman at her unit was concerned that she might exceed her professional growth point (PGA), if she were allowed to extend for the full 36 months. Therefore, on the advise of the yeoman she extended for 34 months. The applicant stated that she was told that she would still would receive an SRB based on 34 month of obligated service. She later discovered that a 36-month extension would not have taken her beyond her PGA. The applicant also discovered that SRB regulations require an extension or reenlistment of at least 36 months to be eligible for an SRB.

The applicant's commanding officer stated that the applicant had received incorrect information. He recommended that she be granted the relief she requested.

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On June 27, 1997, the applicant received a letter from the Commandant in response to her letter to him requesting that she be permitted to cancel the 34 month extension. The Commandant advised the applicant that she could submit an application to the BCMR if she desired to amend, rather than cancel, her agreement to extend her enlistment. An amendment to the extension agreement would allow the applicant to receive an SRB based on 36 months of service without having to obligate for additional new service.

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Views of the Coast Guard

On April 22, 1998, the chief counsel recommended that the applicant receive relief. The chief counsel stated as follows:

Applicant has shown that she was given incorrect information during required counseling, and that had she been given the correct information, she would have extended for 36 months rather than 34 months. Applicant's Agreement to Extend/Reextend Enlistment, form CG-3301B, bearing an effective date in block 4 of 6 March 1997 should be amended to reflect an extension of her original enlistment by a period of 36 months at pay grade E-5. This extension or reenlistment should be made effective as of the expiration of Applicant's original enlistment, which was 25 August 1997.

Applicant's Response to the Views of the Coast Guard

On May 8, 1998, the Board received the applicant's reply to the Coast Guard views. She stated that she had no objection to the Coast Guard recommendation.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The Board makes the following findings and conclusions on the basis of the applicant's submissions, the Coast Guard's submission, the record of the applicant, and applicable law:

- 1. The Board has jurisdiction concerning this matter pursuant to section 1552 of title 10, United States Code. The application was timely.
- 2. The Board finds that the applicant was erroneously advised by her unit yeoman that she could receive an SRB if she extended her enlistment for 34 months. The SRB regulations require that to be eligible for an SRB a servicemember must obligate for at least 36 months of service. Para. 3.d. (4), COMDTINST 7220.33.

- 3. The Board agrees with the Coast Guard that the applicant's record should be corrected to show that she extended her enlistment on March 6, 1997 for a period of 36 months.
 - 4. Accordingly, the applicant's request should be granted.

ORDER

The application of her military record is granted. The agreement to extend her enlistment, signed on March 6, 1997, for a period of 34 months shall be corrected to show that she extended her enlistment for a period of 36 months. She shall receive a Zone A SRB with appropriate multiple. The Coast Guard shall pay the applicant the amount due her as a result of this correction.