

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

Application for Correction of  
Coast Guard Record of:

BCMR Docket  
No. 1999-181

FINAL DECISION

This is a proceeding under the provisions of section 1552 of title 10, United States Code. It was docketed on September 15, 1999, upon the BCMR's receipt of the applicant's complete application for correction of his military record.

This final decision, dated July 26, 2000, is signed by the three duly appointed members who were designated to serve as the Board in this case.

The applicant, a radioman third class (RD3; pay grade E-4), asked the Board to correct his record by awarding him an enlistment bonus (EB) for his four year reenlistment that began on October 29, 1997. He enlisted in the Coast Guard after serving in the Navy from October 22, 1987 until October 21, 1991.

The applicant stated that he was entitled to the bonus because he was a qualified radioman at the time of his enlistment. He stated that his recruiter never informed him of his eligibility for a bonus. The applicant submitted documentation of another RD who received an EB upon enlisting. However, this person enlisted on February 10, 1998.

**Views of the Coast Guard**

On March 28, 2000, the Board received an advisory opinion from the Chief Counsel of the Coast Guard. He recommended that the Board deny relief in this case. The Chief Counsel stated as follows:

Applicant entered the Coast Guard on a 4-year enlistment on 29 October 1997 having previously served on active duty in the U.S. Navy for four years. He alleges that he should have received an enlistment bonus for enlisting in the "RD" rating for four years.

However, there was no authority on his enlistment date to pay the Applicant a bonus. The Coast Guard Enlistment Bonus (EB) Program, COMDTINST 7720.40 did not authorize enlistment bonuses until 01 December 1997, five weeks after Applicant enlisted. . . . Moreover, the

**ORDER**

The application of [redacted]  
his military record is denied.

[redacted] USCG, for correction of

