

**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS**

---

Application for the Correction of  
the Coast Guard Record of:

**FINAL DECISION  
BCMR Docket No. 2014-080**

██████████  
██████████

---

**SUMMARY OF THE RECORD**

The applicant alleged that his records show the wrong date of discharge, which is preventing him from receiving medical benefits from the Department of Veterans' Affairs. He alleged that he was discharged from active duty on May 8, 1993; that his records show a discharge date of May 8, 1989; but that his DD 214 shows a separation date of August 10, 1984. His military records show that he enlisted in the Coast Guard Reserve for six years on May 9, 1983; served 54 days on active duty for basic training during his first year; drilled on inactive duty; served on active duty from June 3, 1984, to August 10, 1984, to attend PS A School; and then served as a reservist on inactive duty until his enlistment ended on May 8, 1989, after which he reenlisted and served as a reservist for another four years from May 9, 1989, through May 8, 1993. The applicant's extended periods of active duty for training are documented on his DD 214, which shows that when he was discharged on August 10, 1984, he had served on active duty for 2 months and 8 days since from June 3, 1984; that he had previously accumulated 1 month and 24 days of prior active duty and 11 months of prior inactive duty; and that the termination date of his Reserve obligation at the time was May 8, 1989.

The Coast Guard recommended granting alternate relief because the applicant's DD 214 accurately reflects his active and inactive duty time and Reserve obligation termination date as of the date it was issued, August 10, 1984. The Coast Guard noted, however, that it failed to send the applicant an honorable discharge certificate when he left the Reserve on May 8, 1993. Therefore, it recommended sending the applicant an honorable discharge certificate dated May 8, 1993, and submitted a copy of one, which it may have already sent to the applicant. The applicant was sent a copy of but did not respond to the Coast Guard's advisory opinion.

**FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

Under COMDTINST M1900.4D, the manual for preparing DD 214s, a DD 214 is only prepared to document an extended period of active duty and should be accurate as of the date of discharge from active duty. The information on a DD 214 is not updated to reflect subsequent events, but a reservist may receive a second DD 214 if he later performs another period of extended active duty. There is no evidence in the record to show that the applicant performed another extended period of active duty after his discharge on August 10, 1984, although he continued serving on inactive duty as a reservist for many years. Therefore, the preponderance of the evidence shows that the applicant's DD 214 dated August 10, 1984, is accurate and that he did not perform any other period of extended active duty not already documented on his DD 214. The Coast Guard has admitted, however, that it failed to issue the applicant an honorable dis-

charge certificate when he was ultimately discharged from the Reserve on May 8, 1993, and has prepared one for him. Therefore, if the Coast Guard has not already done so, it should send the applicant his honorable discharge certificate from the Reserve.

**(ORDER AND SIGNATURES ON NEXT PAGE)**

**ORDER**

The application of former [REDACTED], USCGR, for correction of his military record is denied, but if it has not already done so, the Coast Guard shall send him an honorable discharge certificate documenting his discharge from the Reserve on May 8, 1993.

November 21, 2014

