

**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. 2015-059**

[REDACTED]

SUMMARY OF THE RECORD

The applicant asked the Board to correct block 11 (Primary Specialty) of his DD 214 to indicate [REDACTED]. He stated that he believes this information was accidentally omitted from his DD 214 when he was honorably discharged on January 12, 2015. The applicant's Coast Guard record shows that he enlisted for six years on January 21, 2003, earned the [REDACTED] rate about three years later, and advanced to [REDACTED] before his discharge on January 12, 2015. On his DD 214, block 4.a. (Grade, Rate, or Rank) shows that he was an [REDACTED] and block 11 shows "NA" (not applicable). Blocks 14 and 18 of his DD 214 list the various [REDACTED] [REDACTED] courses he passed.

On August 12, 2015, the Judge Advocate General (JAG) of the Coast Guard submitted an advisory opinion recommending that the Board deny relief in accordance with a memorandum submitted by the Commander, Personnel Service Center (PSC). PSC argued that block 11 of the applicant's DD 214 is correct because he was an enlisted member and Chapter 1.E. of COMDTINST M1900.4D and Chapter 6 of the Servicing Personnel Office (SPO) Separations Branch instructions state that block 11 of the DD 214 should indicate "NA" if the member is enlisted.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

COMDTINST M1900.4D contains the Coast Guard's instructions for preparing a member's DD 214, and it states that if the member is enlisted, then block 11 shall state "NA." According to the instruction, block 11 is completed only when the member is an officer. (An officer's specialty is not revealed by his rank in block 4.a.) Moreover, Chapter 6 of the SPO Separations Branch instructions also provides that if the member is enlisted, then block 11 of the DD 214 shall indicate "NA" in the description field and leave the Competency, Year, Acquired and Last Used fields blank. The record shows that the applicant was enlisted during his entire Coast Guard career and block 11 of his DD 214 correctly indicates "NA" in accordance with COMDTINST M1900.4D and the SPO Separations Branch instructions. The Board finds that the NA is not an injustice because block 4.a. of the applicant's DD 214 correctly shows his specialty in his rate—[REDACTED]—and blocks 14 and 18 show all of the courses he took. Accordingly, the Board finds that his request should be denied because his DD 214 is correct as issued.

(ORDER AND SIGNATURES ON NEXT PAGE)

ORDER

The application of former [REDACTED], USCG, for correction of his military record is denied.

November 6, 2015

