

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

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Application for the Correction of  
the Coast Guard Record of:

**FINAL DECISION  
BCMR Docket No. 2014-010**




**SUMMARY OF THE RECORD**

The applicant asked the Board to correct his record to show that he transferred his unused Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to his dependent son before retiring from active duty on November 30, 2009. He stated that he was never told that he could transfer his unused educational benefits to his dependents and noted that he started terminal leave on July 27, 2009, but that the final message regarding the Post-9/11 GI Bill was not issued until August 1, 2009. There is nothing in the applicant's record to show that he was counseled regarding the transferability of his Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits.

The Judge Advocate General recommended granting relief because the Coast Guard did not provide the applicant with individual, pre-separation counseling regarding his Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits.

**FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

Under paragraph 3.g. of Attachment 1 to DTM 09-003, which prescribes the rules for transferring benefits adopted by the Coast Guard in ALCOAST 377/09, the applicant was entitled to documented, individual pre-separation counseling about his eligibility to transfer his Post-9/11 GI Bill educational benefits to his dependents before he retired. There is no documentation of such counseling in his record, and the Coast Guard has admitted that he was not timely counseled. Therefore, the Board finds that the applicant has proven by a preponderance of the evidence that he was not timely counseled about his eligibility to transfer his unused educational benefits, and he is entitled to relief.

The application of  <sup>R</sup> USCG (retired), for correction of his military record is granted. His record shall be corrected to show that before retiring from active duty, he transferred his Post-9/11 GI Bill educational benefits to his eligible dependent. The Coast Guard shall assist him with the paperwork necessary to accomplish this transfer of benefits.

May 29, 2014

