

**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. 2015-194**


SA (former)

SUMMARY OF THE RECORD

The applicant asked the Board to correct his DD 214 to show that he received the Coast Guard Sea Service Ribbon. He argued that he is eligible for the ribbon because he served 6 months, 3 days at sea during his enlistment. The applicant's record shows that he enlisted in the Coast Guard on November 10, 1992, was discharged on September 12, 1993, and performed 6 months, 3 days of sea service. He stated that he discovered the alleged error in his record on September 14, 1993, and argued that the Board should find it in the interest of justice to consider his application because he did not realize that he could get the error corrected.

On January 20, 2016, the Judge Advocate General (JAG) of the Coast Guard submitted an advisory opinion in which he adopted the findings and analysis provided in a memorandum on the case submitted by the Commanding Officer, Coast Guard Personnel Service Center (PSC), who recommended that the Board deny relief. PSC argued that the applicant is not eligible for the Sea Service Ribbon because he performed only 6 months, 3 days of sea service, and Chapter 5.A.21.a. of the Coast Guard Medals and Awards Manual states that the Coast Guard Sea Service Ribbon is awarded to members who satisfactorily complete a minimum of 12 months cumulative sea duty.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The application is untimely because the applicant was discharged in 1993 but did not submit his application to the Board until 2015, and the Board will not excuse the untimeliness or waive the statute of limitations because a cursory review indicates that there is no error in his record. Enclosure 1 to the Medals and Awards Manual states that the Coast Guard Sea Service Ribbon was authorized by the Commandant on March 3, 1984, and Chapter 5.A.21.a. of the Manual states that it is awarded to active and inactive duty members of the Coast Guard who satisfactorily complete a minimum of 12 months cumulative sea duty. The Board finds that there is no error in the applicant's record because his DD 214 shows that he completed only 6 months, 3 days of sea service and therefore does not meet the eligibility requirement for the Sea Service Ribbon. Therefore, the applicant should be denied.

(ORDER AND SIGNATURES ON NEXT PAGE)

ORDER

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

June 27, 2016

