

**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. 2017-257**

SUMMARY OF THE RECORD

The applicant, who served in the Coast Guard from 1976 to 1980, asked the Board to award him a medal for helping to save the lives of some 30 to 40 men from a barracks fire in 1979. He stated that when the alarm sounded, he rushed out of the barracks but saw that no one else had evacuated, so he ran back inside and evacuated everyone from all three floors. He did not submit any evidence of this claim. Nor is there anything in his military record that mentions the incident. His DD 214 shows that he received a Good Conduct Medal and a Letter of Commendation. The latter was awarded for supporting containment and cleaning activities for a pollution incident in Alaska.

The Coast Guard stated that the applicant's duty station has no record of the fire he described and recommended denying relief based on the application's untimeliness and lack of evidence.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Under Title 10 U.S.C. § 1552(b), an application to the Board must be filed within three years after the applicant discovers the alleged error or injustice. The Board finds that the application is untimely because the applicant was discharged from the Coast Guard in 1980 and knew at the time that he had not been awarded the medal he is seeking, but he did not submit his application to the Board until 2017. The Board finds no grounds for excusing the untimeliness of the application because the applicant did not justify his considerable delay in applying to the Board; he submitted no evidence to support his claims; and there is nothing in his military record or the unit's records that substantiates his claims. Accordingly, the Board will not waive the statute of limitations and the request should be denied.

ORDER

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

March 23, 2018

[REDACTED]