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. 2018-149

CWO2 (Retired)

SUMMARY OF THE RECORD

The applicant asked the Board to correct his DD 214 to show that he received the Coast Guard Overseas Service Ribbon. He alleged that he is entitled the ribbon because he served in Kuwait, at Group Corpus Christie, and at MSO Louisville. His record shows that as a reservist he was recalled to active duty several times, including from February 2, 2003, to September 30, 2004, and during some of that time he served in Kuwait. The DD 214 covering that period of service shows that he served 3 months and 15 days of Foreign Service. He retired from the Coast Guard Reserve on September 29, 2007.

On November 30, 2018, the Coast Guard submitted a memorandum from the Personnel Service Center (PSC) stating that relief should be denied because the application is untimely and the applicant is not eligible for the Overseas Service Ribbon because he served only 3 months and 15 days in Kuwait. PSC noted that the Medals and Awards Manual states that the member must serve overseas for 6 consecutive months or 12 cumulative months to be eligible for the Overseas Service Ribbon. The Board invited the applicant to respond to the Coast Guard's views but did not receive a response.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The application is untimely because the applicant retired in 2007 and a cursory review of the merits reveals that he is unlikely to prevail. He is not entitled to receive the Overseas Service Ribbon because although he served overseas in Kuwait, he was there for just 3 months and 15 days, and Article 5.A.9. of the Medals and Awards Manual in effect in 2007 states that the member must serve overseas at least 6 consecutive months or 12 cumulative months to be eligible for the medal. Therefore, the Board will not waive the statute of limitations and his request should be denied.

ORDER

The application of CWO2 , USCGR, (Retired), for correction of his military record is denied.

April 19, 2019

