

**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. 2011-062**

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

SUMMARY OF THE RECORD

The applicant asked the Board to reduce the term of his current extension contract from 36 months to 9 months so that he can leave active duty to pursue his educational goals. He alleged that in March 2009 he received orders to attend ET "A" School, which required that he have 36 months of obligated service, and that his command had him sign a 36-month extension contract to accept the orders. However, he later learned that, because his enlistment was not due to end until September 5, 2011, and the extension become operative at the end of his enlistment, he should have extended his enlistment for only 9 months. To support these claims, he submitted his 4-year enlistment contract dated September 6, 2007; his training orders requiring him to have 36 months of obligated service upon graduation from ET "A" School on December 16, 2009; and his 36-month extension contract showing that it was signed to obligate service for training.

The Judge Advocate General (JAG) of the Coast Guard recommended that the Board grant partial relief in this case. The JAG stated that under the Training and Education Manual in effect in March 2009, the applicant was required to have 36 months of obligated service upon graduating from ET "A" School but that in May 2009, the manual was revised to require just 34 months of obligated service. Therefore, the applicant needed to obligate service through at least October 15, 2012, to accept the orders to ET "A" School, which ended on December 16, 2009. Because the applicant's enlistment already obligated him to serve through September 5, 2011, the JAG stated, his enlistment should have been extended for only 14 months to November 5, 2012. The JAG recommended that the Board correct the term of the extension to 14 months. The applicant agreed with this recommendation.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Enclosure (3) to the Coast Guard's Training and Education Manual in effect since May 2009 shows that the duration of ET "A" School is 22 weeks, and Table 7-3 shows that the obligated service requirement for attending a 22-week "A" school is 34 months. Chapter 7.F.13. of the manual states that "[t]he period of obligated service will commence on the date of graduation from course of instruction." Therefore, to attend a session of ET "A" School that ended on December 16, 2009, the applicant had to obligate service through at least October 15, 2012. Because his enlistment already ran through September 5, 2011, he needed to extend his enlistment for only 14 months, rather than 36 months, to attend ET "A" School. Therefore, relief should be granted by correcting the term of his extension from 36 months to 14 months.

ORDER

The military record of xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx, USCG, shall be corrected by reducing the term of his March 31, 2009, extension contract from 36 months to 14 months so that his new expiration of enlistment date shall be November 5, 2012.

September 29, 2011
Date

