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. 2015-176

SUMMARY OF THE RECORD

The applicant asked the Board to correct his DD 214 to show that the service he performed in the Coast Guard Reserve following recruit basic training was active duty instead of active duty for training. He argued that during his 6 years in the Reserve he performed the same type of duty as active duty members and that all of his time as a reservist following recruit training was active duty and not active duty for training as currently shown on his DD 214. In support of his allegations, the applicant submitted documents showing that he completed numerous correspondence courses and performed service under active duty for training orders. The applicant's record shows that he enlisted in the Reserve on October 30, 1964, and was ordered to Initial Active Duty for Training from January 26, 1965, to July 22, 1965, for which he received a DD 214. The DD 214 states in Blocks 11a and 19 that the service was active duty for training. The applicant did not perform subsequent periods of Reserve service of more than 90 days so he did not receive additional DD 214s.

On November 24, 2015, the Judge Advocate General submitted an advisory opinion recommending that the Board deny relief in accordance with a memorandum submitted by the Personnel Service Center (PSC). PSC argued that the applicant's record is correct because his DD 214 accurately reflects his initial active duty for training, and the remainder of his service in the Reserve does not qualify him for another DD 214 because he did not perform any active duty for training in excess of 90 days, nor were his duties performed in support of a contingency operation. PSC noted that DoD policy states that DD 214s are for documenting active military service.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The application is untimely because the applicant was discharged in 1965 but did not submit his application to the Board until 2015, and a cursory review indicates that there is no error in his record. COMDTINST M1900.4D, the Coast Guard's instructions for preparing DD 214s, states in Article 1.B.10. that reservists released from a period of continuous active duty for training (ADT) of less than 90 days are ineligible to receive a DD 214, and this is consistent with DoD policy. The record shows that although the applicant was in the Reserve for 6 years and received a DD 214 for his initial, extended period of active duty for training, in subsequent years he did not perform any period of 90 continuous days on active duty—the minimum required for preparation of a DD 214 under COMDTINST M1900.4D. Because the applicant did not perform more than one period of active duty longer than 90 days he is not eligible to receive a second DD 214, nor should his DD 214 be corrected to show that his Reserve duty was active duty. Therefore, the Board will not excuse the untimeliness of the application, which should be denied.

ORDER

The application of former USCGR, for correction of his military record is denied.

June 27, 2016

