

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

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Application for the Correction of  
the Coast Guard Record of:

BCMR Docket No. 2000-018



TECHNICAL AMENDMENT

, Deputy Chair:

This is a proceeding conducted under 33 C.F.R. § 52.73 to consider a technical amendment to the order issued by the Board on May 3, 2001, in Docket No. 2000-018. The request for a technical amendment was received from the Chief Counsel of the Coast Guard and the Commander of the Coast Guard Personnel Command (CGPC) on November 17, 2003.

In its order in Docket No. 2000-018, the Board granted the applicant's requested relief, in accordance with the recommendation of the Chief Counsel, by, *inter alia*, changing the date of separation on his discharge form DD 214 from August 31, 1996, to September 16, 1996; awarding him back pay and allowances due as a result of that correction; and directing the Coast Guard to issue him a transition benefits card so that he and his family could receive the same transition benefits they should have received when his erroneous DD 214 was issued.

The Chief Counsel stated that "[d]espite its best efforts, the Coast Guard is unable to comply" with the part of the Board's order requiring the Coast Guard to issue the applicant a transition benefits card under the TAMP program. According to CGPC, such cards "were previously issued through the same Department of Defense automated card issuing system that is used by the Coast Guard to issue military and dependent identification cards. The transition benefits card application program was removed from the system when the law authorizing transition benefits expired in 2000, and it cannot be restored."

CGPC therefore proposed that the Board amend its order so that the applicant and his family would receive benefits cards that are "similar to the type issued to active duty members and their dependents" but that would "only be valid for the period authorized for your benefits," to include "military commissary and exchange facilities for two years and 120 days of Medical TRICARE benefits effective from the date the card is issued."

The Chief Counsel submitted with his request for a technical amendment a letter from the applicant dated October 24, 2003, in which he stated that he found CGPC's proposal to be satisfactory "as long as this is concluded in a timely fashion."

### FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The Board finds that because the TAMP program has expired and the Coast Guard is unable to issue the same transition benefits card the applicant should have received upon his separation in 1996, the Board's order in Docket No. 2000-018 should be amended in accordance with the terms recently agreed to by the applicant and CGPC. Specifically, the Coast Guard should issue the applicant and his family benefits cards of the type currently issued to active duty members and their dependents, and the cards should be valid for two years for the purpose of military commissary and exchange facilities benefits, and for 120 days for the purpose of Medical TRICARE benefits, effective from the date the card is issued.

### ORDER

The Board's order in Docket No. 2000-018 is amended by deleting the last sentence of the order, regarding a transition benefits card, and by inserting the following sentence:

The Coast Guard shall issue to the applicant and his family benefits cards of the type currently issued to active duty members and their dependents, and the cards shall be valid for two years for the purpose of military commissary and exchange facilities benefits, and for 120 days for the purpose of Medical TRICARE benefits, effective from the date the card is issued.

November 20, 2003

