

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD

Docket Number: 2012-042

Discharge Issued

Character: Uncharacterized

Narrative Reason: Entry Level Separation

SPD/RE Code: JGA / RE3L

Authority of Discharge: 12.B.20

Date of Separation: 2007-07-06

DRB Decision

Character: No Change

Narrative Reason: No Change

SPD/RE Code: No Change / No Change

New Authority: No Change

Discharge Review Board Discussion and Decision:

DISCUSSION:

The applicant was discharged for Entry Level Separation.

Upon reporting to boot camp, the applicant told the company commander at the forming unit "I shouldn't be in training." The applicant expressed that their mother had not approved of enlisting in the Coast Guard at the time of signing the contract. The applicant's parents were divorced and the mother relied heavily on the applicant to assist in the caring for her and other siblings. Upon arriving at Boot Camp, the applicant began to fully realize the impact that the cancer was taking on the mother.

Majority Board Opinion (3-2): The Majority Board finds that the applicant firmly demonstrated that the stressful situation that lead to his discharge, no longer exists. Due to the extreme circumstances surrounding the applicant's otherwise exemplary record-- this traumatic period should have resulted in the 'Failure to complete a course of Instruction'. The applicant has had no official diagnosis of mental health issues at any point. The Minority Board opinion on the applicant's disqualifying mental health condition was not supported in the Narrative Reason for Separation. The Board notes that his Narrative Reason (NR) for Separation was for an 'Entry Level Separation'. Amending the NR to 'Failure to Complete Course of Instruction' would synonymously and more aptly represent the events surrounding the applicant at the time of separation. In short, the applicant asks that returning home to care for the mother in her final days not serve as permanent barrier in pursuing employment and professional goals in the service.

Minority Board Opinion (2-3): The Minority Board acknowledges the Applicant's potential aptitude for future service; however, the applicant has not substantiated that the adjustment disorder was resolved as required by competent medical authority as a condition for reentry to military service. The Majority Board accepts the applicant's assertions of being denied civilian employment based on the RE3 code. However, there is nothing to support these assertions. Acceptance of the Majority Board opinion would represent a deviation from existing policy and establish a precedent of utilizing the DRB to skirt existing recruiting policies for reentry into the Armed Forces.

General Law's Review (CG044): Concurs with the Minority Board for NO relief. Stand as issued. Final Adjudication by Assistant Commandant For Human Resources: No relief.

In reviewing discharges, the Board presumes regularity in the conduct of governmental affairs unless there is substantial credible evidence (to include evidence submitted by the Applicant) to rebut the presumption.

