

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD

Docket Number: 2013-014

Discharge Issued

Character: Honorable

Narrative Reason: Unacceptable Conduct

SPD/RE Code: JNC / RE4

Authority of Discharge: COMDTINST M1000.6A,

Date of Separation: 2009-05-11

DRB Decision

Character: No Change

Narrative Reason: Adjustment Disorder

SPD/RE Code: JFY / RE3

New Authority: No Change

Discharge Review Board Discussion and Decision:

DISCUSSION:

The applicant was discharged for unacceptable conduct with an SPD code of JNC that stemmed from the inability to adjust to military life.

Following boot camp, the applicant reported to a Coast Guard Station and served nearly 5 months before being Discharged. In the short service period, the significant events are:

- Command received a call from the applicant's friend stating they fell asleep on the phone with after taking pain pills. The applicant had been routinely stressed and often called the friend after drinking heavily. Command sent applicant to the clinic for a psychiatric evaluation.
- Clinic recommended to Discharge the applicant based on the diagnosis of an Adjustment Disorder, the command notified the member of the intent to discharge.
- The applicant did not object to the discharge and waived the right to an attorney. All documents read that the applicant was to be separated due to an Adjustment Disorder.
- Two months later: Applicant was Discharged from USCG for Unacceptable Conduct.

The Board does note that the applicant told the command and psychiatrist of having suicidal thoughts that traced back to adolescent days. The applicant has no administrative remarks to demonstrate negative conduct within the service record. There is no basis to support unacceptable conduct as the narrative reason. Other factors: The applicant had greater than 180 days of service, so the character of service could not be deemed as uncharacterized. The CG released ALCOAST 252/09, which established that members who are not able to adapt to military life will no longer receive such a negative connotation or stigma to be associated with unacceptable conduct. Therefore, a new set of SPD codes was created. The FY series was to be aligned with the new narrative reason of 'Adjustment Disorder'. In this case, the applicant should be awarded an SPD code of JFY and a RE-3G reentry code. This disqualifying factor with the reentry code is defined as: Condition (Not a Physical Disability) interfering with performance of duty.

The Board voted 5-0 to recommend relief on the following items:

Narrative Reason: Adjustment Disorder

SPD code: JFY

RE code: RE-3G

The applicant's character of service and separation authority stand as issued.

Final Adjudication by Assistant Commandant For Human Resources: Concurs and approves the Board's findings.

Relief is granted.

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.