

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD

Docket Number: 2013-031

Discharge Issued

Character: Under Honorable Conditions (General)

Narrative Reason: Misconduct

SPD/RE Code: JKK / RE4

Authority of Discharge: COMDTINST M1000.4 Art 1.B.17

Date of Separation: 2013-02-11

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 Misconduct due to Involvement with Drugs.

The applicant was directed to provide a urine sample while at "A" school. The applicant deliberately tampered with the sample by masking it with water. Per procedure, the sample was sent to a medical facility to test the validity of the sample. The lab results showed the sample was not within the normal range of a urine sample. An invalid sample was considered to be a masked or intentionally altered sample in order to avoid a positive drug result. Additionally, the applicant admitted to these actions out of frustration.

In accordance with the CG Drug and Alcohol Abuse Program (COMDTNST M1000.10), the testing policies and procedures were handled correctly by the Urinalysis coordinator and observer. The urinalysis ledger, testing procedure checklist and designation letters were verified for accuracy. The chain of custody with the applicant's specimen was executed flawlessly.

The Board finds no issues with propriety or equity in this case.

The applicant was notified of the intent to discharge. The applicant was advised of the rights to an attorney and to make a statement, but declined both options. Coast Guard policy prescribes no higher than a General, Under Honorable Conditions character of service for individuals separated as a result of violating the Coast Guard's drug policy. The Coast Guard has zero tolerance for drug abuse. The General, Under Honorable Conditions discharge is equitable.

Propriety: Discharge was proper.

Equity: Discharge was equitable.

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.