

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD

Docket Number: 2019-054

Discharge Issued

Character: Uncharacterized

Narrative Reason: Entry Level Separation

SPD/RE Code: JFY / RE4

Authority of Discharge: COMDTINST M1000.4, Art 1.B.19

Date of Separation: 2018-03-09

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 Adjustment Disorder which is not in itself a medical disorder, but a failure to adapt to military culture as defined by ALCOAST 252/09 and ALCOAST 562-08.

Recommended Discharge Category: Psych, discharge reason: Adjustment Disorder with Depression. Specifically, this applicant was referred to mental health during Week 06 after hospitalization at a psychiatric Hospital.

The applicant was hospitalized voluntarily after they gestured hanging themselves with the rope that was issued to them in seamanship class. The applicant related that they were acutely upset that their supervisors would not honor a DOR (drop on request) for dis-enrollment from training after telling the applicant that their mother was suffering from declining health and they wanted to go home to help her.

The applicant was hospitalized for three days and they were discharged with a diagnosis of Adjustment Disorder which is not in itself a medical disorder, but a failure to adapt to military culture. The inpatient unit did not feel the applicant suffered from any clinical mood, anxiety, or thought disorder besides an adjustment reaction and was referred to outpatient counseling services when they returned home. The applicant denied any overt depression, anxiety, or thought disorder. The applicant stated that they did not have any thoughts of self-harm or suicidal ideation. The military medical professional noted that they did not recommend reenlistment due to the marked maladjustment to training coupled with the applicant's poor impulse control. After 47 days of training, the applicant was unable to meet the minimum training requirements set forth.

An RE4 reentry code signifies that the applicant is not recommended or is ineligible for reenlistment. An uncharacterized character of service is not derogatory in nature and is the prescribed character for individuals who were separated while at initial accession training when there was no associated conduct to warrant a less desirable character of service. Discharges while in the minimum six-month probationary period as prescribed in policy (the first 180 days of service) do not meet the criteria for a Characterized Discharge. This discharge was consistent with the procedural and substantive requirements of policy and was within the discretion of the separation authority. The Board finds the separation was both proper and equitable.

RECOMMENDATION: The Board members thoroughly reviewed the applicant's record of service and all available documentation. The Board deemed that the applicant's character of service and reason for separation and reenlistment code are appropriate and should not be changed. The applicant has not substantiated any error or inequity.

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.