

CRS Docket No: 3241-98 12 August 1999



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This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to the provisions of Title 10, United States Code, Section 1552.

A three-member panel of the Board for Correction of Naval Records, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 11 August 1999. Your allegations of error and injustice were reviewed in accordance with administrative regulations and procedures applicable to the proceedings of this Board. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of your application, together with all material submitted in support thereof, your naval record and applicable statutes, regulations and policies.

After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board found that the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice.

The Board found that you enlisted in the Marine Corps on 17 June 1980 at age 17. Your record reflects that you received three nonjudicial punishments and were convicted by a special courtmartial. The offenses included unauthorized absences totalling 47 days, failure to obey a lawful order, absence from your appointed place of duty on three occasions, and willful disobedience of a lawful order on two occasions.

On 30 January 1984 the commanding officer recommended that you be separated with an other than honorable discharge by reason of misconduct due to pattern of misconduct. When informed of the recommendation, you elected to waive your right to present your case to an administrative discharge board. After review by the discharge authority, the recommendation for separation was approved and you were discharged with an other than honorable discharge on 4 May 1984.

In its review of your application the Board carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth and immaturity. However, the Board concluded that these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge, given the four disciplinary actions and more than a month of unauthorized absence. Therefore, the Board concluded that no change to the discharge is warranted. Accordingly, your application has been denied. The names and votes of the members of the panel will be furnished upon request.

It is regretted that the circumstances of your case are such that favorable action cannot be taken. You are entitled to have the Board reconsider its decision upon submission of new and material evidence or other matter not previously considered by the Board. In this regard, it is important to keep in mind that a presumption of regularity attaches to all official records. Consequently, when applying for a correction of an official naval record, the burden is on the applicant to demonstrate the existence of probable material error or injustice.

Sincerely,

W. DEAN PFEIFFER Executive Director