



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS
2 NAVY ANNEX
WASHINGTON DC 20370-5100

CRS
Docket No: 2969-02
15 November 2002

[REDACTED]

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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 30 October 2002. 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 Naval Reserve on 19 July 1977 at age 17. You reported to active duty on 19 September 1977. The record reflects that you received eight nonjudicial punishments. The offenses included unauthorized absences totalling 24 days, failure to obey a lawful order, absence from your appointed place of duty on 11 occasions, falsely altering a liberty card, possession of marijuana on two occasions, possession of a switchblade knife, sleeping on post and missing movement. Subsequently, on 28 December 1979 you received a general discharge by reason of burden to command. At that time, you were assigned a reenlistment code of RE-4.

Character of service is based, in part, on one's conduct and overall traits averages, both of which are computed from marks assigned during periodic evaluations. Your conduct and overall trait averages were 1.60 and 2.13, respectively. Minimum average marks of 3.0 in conduct and 2.7 in overall traits were required for a fully honorable characterization of service at the time of your separation.

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 or a change in the reason for discharge, given your eight disciplinary actions during an enlistment of less than three years. Therefore, the Board concluded that no change to the discharge is warranted. The Board also concluded that your eight nonjudicial punishments were more than sufficient to support the assignment of the RE-4 reenlistment code.

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