





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

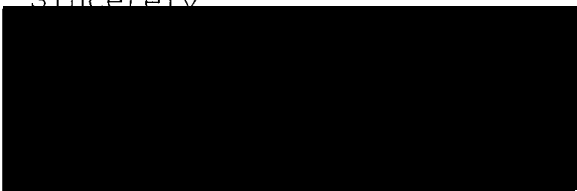

Docket No: 7954-07
14 July 2008


This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to the provisions of title 10 of the 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 9 July 2008. 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. In addition, the Board considered the advisory opinion furnished by Headquarters Marine Corps dated 3 April 2008, a copy of which is attached.

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. In this connection the Board substantially concurred with the comments contained in the advisory opinion. 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,


Enclosure



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
3280 RUSSELL ROAD
QUANTICO, VIRGINIA 22134-5103

IN REPLY REFER TO:
1650
MMMA-3
3 Apr 08

MEMORANDUM FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF
NAVAL RECORDS

Subj: REQUEST FOR ADVISORY OPINION IN THE CASE OF FORMER
[REDACTED] FORMER MARINE

1. During the period [REDACTED] served in the Marine Corps, the Purple Heart was authorized for award to those who were wounded or injured as a direct or indirect result of action by an enemy of the United States or an opposing armed force of a foreign country in which the Armed Forces of the United States was engaged. Verification of entitlement must be made by official entries in the service or medical records and/or casualty reports.
2. A review of his service and medical records, and the records at this Headquarters failed to reveal any evidence that he received shrapnel wounds to his right knee cap as a direct or indirect result of enemy action in [REDACTED]. Therefore, he is not entitled to a Purple Heart award.
3. We regret a more favorable response is not possible. We have not taken [REDACTED] request lightly. We realize how important this award is to him, but without official documentation, there is no further action that can be taken. Complete documentation is required in order to preserve both the meaning of the award and the integrity of the awards system.
4. Point of contact at MMMA is [REDACTED]