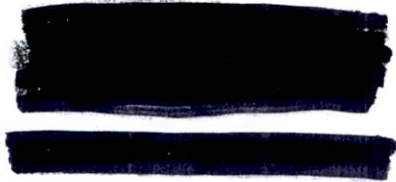




DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS
701 S. COURTHOUSE ROAD, SUITE 1001
ARLINGTON, VA 22204-2490

TJR
Docket No: 12970-11
4 October 2012



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 3 October 2012. The names and votes of the members of the panel will be furnished upon request. 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 the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice.

You enlisted in the Marine Corps on 25 July 1984 at age 18 and immediately began a period of active duty. Shortly thereafter, beginning in December 1984, you were the subject of counselling on eight occasions due to your failure to follow instructions, having incomplete homework, sleeping in class, reporting to school late on four occasions, possessing and drinking alcoholic beverages in the barracks, wrongful use of marijuana, reporting for duty incapacitated as evidenced by your drinking prior to reporting to work, continued alcohol abuse, sleeping on duty, nonrecommendation for reenlistment/assignment of an RE-4 reenlistment code, not being recommended for promotion due to frequent counselling, and being administratively processed for separation due to unsuitability.

You served for 10 months without disciplinary incident, but during the period from 2 May 1985 to 4 November 1986, you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) on four occasions for disobedience, possessing and drinking liquor in the barracks,


absence from your appointed place of duty, failure to obey a lawful order by not squaring away your uniform and polishing your boots, and two periods of failure to go to your appointed place of duty.

Subsequently, you were processed for an administrative separation by reason of misconduct due to a pattern of misconduct and minor disciplinary infractions. After waiving your procedural right to consult with legal counsel and to present your case to an administrative discharge board (ADB), on 5 January 1988, your commanding officer recommended discharge under other than honorable conditions by reason of misconduct due to a pattern of misconduct and minor disciplinary infractions. The discharge authority approved this recommendation and directed your commanding officer to issue you an other than honorable discharge by reason of misconduct, and on 10 February 1988, you were so discharged.

The Board, in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth and desire to upgrade your discharge. Nevertheless, the Board concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge because of the seriousness of your frequent and repetitive misconduct which resulted in four NJPs and counselling on eight occasions. Finally, you were given an opportunity to defend yourself, but waived your procedural right to present your case to an ADB. Accordingly, your application has been denied.

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