



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

SJN
Docket No: 8092-14
24 July 2015

5 U.S.C. 552(b) (6)

Dear 5 U.S.C.

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.

Although your application was not filed in a timely manner, the Board found it in the interest of justice to waive the statute of limitations and consider your application on its merits. A three-member panel of the Board for Correction of Naval Records, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 17 July 2015. 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 and began a period of active duty on 24 January 1973. On 26 June 1974, you were convicted by special court-martial (SPCM) of 272 days of unauthorized absence (UA). You were sentenced to confinement at hard labor, a forfeiture of pay, and a bad conduct discharge (BCD). On 3 July 1974, you waived your right to request restoration to full duty, stating "Because I know I will mess up and I have to live with it and pay for anything it does to me." You received the BCD on 18 February 1975 after appellate review was completed.

The Board, in its review of your record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your record of service and desire to upgrade your discharge. Nevertheless, the Board concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge given the seriousness of your misconduct which resulted in your SPCM conviction for a very lengthy period of UA. 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 within one year from the date of the Board's decision. New evidence is evidence not previously considered by the Board prior to making its decision in your case. 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,

5 U.S.C. 552(b) (6)

ROBERT J. O'NEILL
Executive Director