

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

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

> Docket No: 7458-16 NOV 0 7 2017



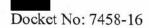
Dear

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 6 September 2017. 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, relevant portions of your naval record and applicable statutes, regulations and policies.

You reenlisted in the Navy on 7 August 1984 after nearly four years of prior service. You served for three year and five months without disciplinary incident, but on 4 January 1988, you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for wrongful use of cocaine. Subsequently, you were notified of pending administrative separation by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse at which time you waived your procedural rights to consult with legal counsel and to present your case to an administrative discharge board (ADB). Your commanding officer recommended discharge under other than honorable conditions by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse. The discharge authority approved the recommendation and directed separation under other than honorable conditions by reason of misconduct and on 24 March 1988, you were discharged.

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. The Board carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, and your contention that you should be issued two Certificates of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214) because you had two enlistments. The Board concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant relief



in your case because of the seriousness of your misconduct that resulted in an NJP and wrongful drug use in light of the Navy's policy of "zero tolerance." Further, you were given an opportunity to defend your actions, but waived your procedural rights. Accordingly, your application has been denied.

In regard to your contention, you were issued a DD Form 214 for your first period of enlistment from 5 August 1980 to 6 August 1984, a copy is enclosed. The Board also noted that you should contact the Department of the Navy, Navy Personnel Command (BUPERS), Sailor Assistance Center, Code Pers-312F, 5720 Integrity Drive, Millington, TN 38055-3120 to request additional copies of your DD Form 214.

It is regretted that the circumstances of your case are such that favorable action cannot be taken at this time. You are entitled to have the Board reconsider its decision upon the submission of new and material evidence. New evidence is evidence 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,

**Executive Director**