



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

[REDACTED]
Docket No: 7639-16
NOV 29 2017

From: Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records
To: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: REVIEW NAVAL RECORD OF [REDACTED] USN, [REDACTED]

Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C. 1552
(b) 10 U.S.C. 654 (Repeal)
(c) UNSECDEF Memo OF 20 Sep 11 (Correction of Military Record following Repeal of U.S.C. 654)

Encl: (1) DD Form 149 with attachments
(2) Case summary
(3) Subject's naval record (excerpts)

1. Pursuant to the provisions of reference (a), Petitioner, a former enlisted member of the Navy, filed enclosure (1) with this Board requesting, in effect, that his "Other Than Honorable (OTH)" discharge be changed per reference (b). He also implicitly requested that his narrative reason for separation "Homosexuality," be changed per reference (b). Additionally, that the separation authority "BPM ART: C-10311 CODE 253," be changed. Enclosures (1) through (3) apply.

2. The Board reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 26 September 2017 and, pursuant to its regulations, determined that the corrective action indicated below should be taken on the available evidence of record. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of the enclosures, relevant portions of naval records, and applicable statutes, regulations, and policies.

3. The Board, having reviewed all the facts of record pertaining to Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice finds as follows:

a. Before applying to this Board, Petitioner exhausted all administrative remedies available under existing law and regulations within the Department of the Navy.

b. Although enclosure (1) was not filed in a timely manner, it is in the interest of justice to waive the statute of limitations and review the application on its merits.

c. Petitioner enlisted in the Navy on 26 December 1964. During the period from 1 October 1965 to 2 March 1966, Petitioner was convicted by special court martial (SPCM) of two specifications of unauthorized absence (UA) and breaking restriction. He also received two non-judicial punishments (NJP) for the following offences: UA for 19 days, missing ship's

movement, and drunk and disorderly. On 6 June 1966, he made a written statement admitting to several pre-service and in-service homosexual acts. As a result of the foregoing, administrative discharge action was initiated. After being afforded all of his procedural rights, it was directed that he receive an OTH discharge by reason of unfitness "homosexuality." On 6 July 1966, he was discharged.

d. References (b) and (c) sets forth the Department of the Navy's current policies, standards, and procedures for correction of military records following the "don't ask, don't tell" (DADT) repeal of 10 U.S.C. 654. It provides service Discharge Review Boards with the guidance to grant requests to change the characterization of service to "honorable," narrative reason for discharge to "secretarial authority," SPD code to "JFF," and reentry code to "RE-1J," when the original discharge was based solely on DADT or a similar policy in place prior to enactment of it and there are no aggravating factors in the record, such as misconduct.

CONCLUSION:

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record, and especially in light of references (b) and (c), the Board concludes that Petitioner's request warrants partial relief. In this regard, the Board notes Petitioner's overall record of military service and current Department of the Navy policy as established in reference (c), that relief in the form of his characterization of service be changed to read "general" and narrative reason for separation be changed to read "secretarial authority." Additionally, that the separation authority be changed to read "MILPERSMAN 1910-164." In view of the above, the Board directs the following corrective action.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Petitioner's naval record be corrected to show that he received a "general discharge" by reason of "secretarial authority" on 6 July 1966. Additionally, the separation authority was "MILPERSMAN 1910-164." It is further directed that he be issued a new Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214).

That a copy of this report of proceedings be filed in Petitioner's naval record.

That, upon request, the Department of Veterans Affairs be informed that Petitioner's application was received by the Board on 23 August 2016.

4. It is certified that a quorum was present at the Board's review and deliberations, and that the foregoing is a true and complete record of the Board's proceedings in the above entitled matter.

[REDACTED]
Recorder

Subj: REVIEW NAVAL RECORD OF [REDACTED] USN [REDACTED]

5. Pursuant to the delegation of authority set out in Section 6(e) of the revised Procedures of the Board for Correction of Naval Records (32 Code of Federal Regulation, Section 723.6(e)) and having assured compliance with its provisions, it is hereby announced that the foregoing corrective action, taken under the authority of reference (a), has been approved by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.

[REDACTED]
Executive Director