

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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

> Docket No: 7055-17 DEC 2 6 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 16 October 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 enlisted in the Marine Corps and began a period of active duty on 24 August 1998. In February 2000, while being treated for an unrelated medical condition, you learned you were pregnant. On 13 March 2000, you submitted a request for separation from the Marine Corps due to pregnancy and stated that you would be raising your child completely on your own. Your request was approved, and you were discharged from the Marine Corps on 28 April 2000, with an honorable characterization of service on the basis of "Pregnancy/Childbirth." Your separation authority reads "MARCORSEPMAN PAR 6408" and your separation code is "KDF1."

After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board found the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material or injustice. The Board, in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors such as your contention that your pregnancy did not impact your ability to serve in the Marine Corps. You state that the parenting of a child as a single mother possibly stationed anywhere in the world without a support system prompted your request for separation. You ask that your narrative separation reason of "Pregnancy/Childbirth" and the corresponding separation code be changed to "Parenthood." The Board noted that your separation request dated 13 March 2000, was due to pregnancy and that your service record does not indicate that your parenting responsibilities impacted your ability to serve at the time of your discharge on 28

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April 2000. The Board concluded that the narrative separation reason of "Pregnancy/Childbirth" and the separation code of "KDF1" accurately reflect the circumstances of your separation at the time of your discharge. The Board found that your DD Form 214 does not contain an error or injustice. Accordingly, your application has been denied.

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