

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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

> Docket No. 7757-23 Ref: Signature Date

From:	Chairman,	Board	for	Correction	of Naval	Records

To: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD ICO FORMER MEMBER , USN,

XXX-XX-

Ref: (a) Title 10 U.S.C. § 1552

(b) COMNAVCRUITCOM msg 102100Z May 19

(c) OPNAVINST 1160.9A

Encl: (1) DD Form 149 w/attachments

(2) Advisory Opinion by NPPSC,

(3) Subject's naval record

- 1. Pursuant to the provisions of reference (a), Subject, hereinafter referred to as Petitioner, filed enclosure (1) with the Board for Correction of Naval Records (Board), requesting that his naval record be corrected to reflect indebtedness of \$35,600 for Selective Enlistment Bonus (SEB) received.
- 2. The Board, consisting of ______, _____, and ______ reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 29 August 2024 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 Petitioner's naval record, 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, found that, before applying to this Board, he exhausted all administrative remedies available under existing law and regulations within the Department of the Navy. The Board made the following findings:
- a. On 15 February 2019, Petitioner enlisted in the Naval Reserve for 8 years of which 4 years was considered an active duty obligation. NAVCRUIT 1133/52, Enlistment Guarantees Annex "A" listed Advanced Electronics Field Advanced Electronics Computer Field (AEF/AECF 6YO) Program; Enlisted Bonus for Source Rate (EBSR) \$10,000 Bonus; Enlistment Bonus for RTC PFA Enlistment Bonus for Physical Fitness Assessment (EBPFA) \$2,000 Bonus; and Enlistment Bonus for College Credit (EBCC) \$8,000 Bonus. Active Duty Service Date (ADSD): 4 June 2019.
- b. On 15 February 2019, Petitioner signed NAVCRUIT 1133/102, Enlistment Bonus Statement of Understanding outlining eligibility for a 10,000 EBSR, \$8,000 EBCC, and \$2,000

EBPFA. By signing this form, Petitioner acknowledged "[f]or enlistees eligible for EBSR. I understand that I become eligible for payment upon successful completion of "A" and/or "C" school and designation in the skill for which I am enlisting. (For sailors in Nuclear Field Program), I understand that I will receive 33 percent of my EB [Enlistment Bonus] payment upon completion of Nuclear Power School and 67 percent upon completion of Nuclear Prototype training...I understand that I must remain fully qualified for the program/rating in which I am enlisting through the entire term of my initial enlistment to include the time prior to receipt of my enlistment bonus. Failure to maintain all eligibility requirements at any point during the enlistment could result in either voiding my EBSR entitlement or in recoupment of monies that have already been paid to me."

- c. On 28 May 2019, Petitioner reclassified and issued NAVCRUIT 1133/52, Enlistment Guarantees Annex "B" which listed Nuclear Field (NF 6YO) Program; Enlistment Bonus for Source Rate (EBSR) \$30,000; Enlistment Bonus for College Credit (EBCC) \$8,000 Bonus; and Enlistment Bonus for RTC PFA (EBPFA) \$2,000 Bonus. ADSD: 30 May 2019.
- d. On 30 May 2019, Petitioner signed the accession portion of the NAVCRUIT 1133/102, Enlistment Bonus Statement of Understanding accepting the change in program to the Nuclear Field and eligibility to \$30,000 EBSR and entered active duty.
 - e. On 3 August 2019, Petitioner completed Recruit Basic Military Training.
- f. In August 2019, Petitioner's Leave and Earning Statement (LES) reflects payment of \$8,000 SEB.
- g. On 15 February 2020, Petitioner completed Nuclear Field Class "A" School followed by completion of Nuclear Power training on 10 July 2020.
 - h. In September 2020, Petitioner's LES reflects payment of \$9,900 SEB (33% of the EBSR).
 - i. On 24 February 2021, Petitioner completed the Nuclear Propulsion Plant Operator course.
 - j. In April 2021, Petitioner's LES reflect payment of \$20,100 SEB.
- k. In June 2021, Petitioner's LES listed an SEB entry of negative \$38,000 and a subsequent entry of Advance Debt for \$38,000.
- 1. On 16 July 2021, Petitioner honorably discharged with Separation Code "JFC"-Erroneous Entry and Reentry Code of "RE-3E."
- m. On 26 May 2023, Petitioner issued an invoice with a total balance of \$50,766.22. The invoice indicates, "[r]ecoupment is required for the unearned portion of your (re)enlistment bonus based on your separation code JFC. Your (re)enlistment contract obligated you to perform duty through 05/29/2023 and at separation you have 673 unserved days."

n. In correspondence attached as enclosure (2), the office having cognizance over the subject matter addressed in Petitioner's application has commented to the effect that the debt appears to be incorrect. Transaction Service Center, Norfolk advised when Petitioner's strength loss was reported an additional recoupment of \$17,759.73 was erroneously generated causing a total debt of \$55,759.73. Additionally, Petitioner was entitled to one day of pay and allowances on 16 July 2021, prorated clothing allowance of \$54, 50.5 days of leave sold for \$4,123.83 (before taxes) and served over 2 years of his enlistment at the time of separation and was entitled to part of the SEB.

CONCLUSION

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record, and especially in light of the contents of enclosure (2), the Board finds the existence of an error warranting the following corrective action. The Board concluded Petitioner's indebtedness amount appears to be incorrect as he was not required to repay the \$8,000 EBCC in accordance with reference (b)¹ and was entitled to a prorated portion of the EBSR per reference (c).² The Board found that an audit of Petitioner's pay record is required to ensure all pay, allowances and SEB recoupments were correctly processed. Therefore, the Board determined that under these circumstances, partial relief is warranted.

RECOMMENDATION

That Petitioner's naval record be corrected, where appropriate, to show that:

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service will conduct an audit of Petitioner's pay records to determine the correct amount of Selective Enlistment Bonus indebtedness.

The part of Petitioner's request for corrective action that exceeds the foregoing is denied. The Board does not audit specific debt and/or have the authority to waive indebtedness.

A copy of this report of proceedings will be filed in Petitioner's naval record.

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¹ Applied to future Sailors initially classified or reclassified (change in program, rate, or ship date) on or after 10 May 2019. By law the EB limit is \$40K. If the sum of the EBs exceed \$40K, EBSR will be reduced to maintain total EB at \$40K. Active Component (AC) recruits in the Nuclear Field (NF) program that shipped in October through September of any fiscal year were eligible for \$38,000 EBSR. All AC recruits were eligible for \$2,000 EBPFA if they pass the baseline PFA with a satisfactory-medium or better score and \$8,000 EBCC for those with a bachelor's degree or greater. EBPFA and EBCC payments are considered earned upon graduation from RTC and may not be recouped due to reclassification or separation.

² Members must complete all pipeline training for and continue in the contracted rating, skill, or program to be eligible to receive the enlistment bonus. Individuals eligible for an EBSR must successfully complete class "A" school and, if appropriate, class "C" school to receive the EBSR. NF members must successfully complete nuclear power school and nuclear prototype training. A Service member who is paid an enlistment bonus will be required to repay any unearned portion of the bonus in the event the Service member fails to fulfill the conditions of eligibility, service, or assignment.

- 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 titled matter.
- 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 Regulations, 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 the reference, has been approved by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.

