

Docket No. 8006-23 Ref: Signature Date

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

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD ICO USMC RET

- Ref: (a) Title 10 U.S.C. § 1552 (b) DoD 7000.14-R
- Encl: (1) DD Form 149 w/attachments (2) 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 her naval record be corrected to reflect declined participation in Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP).

2. The Board, consisting of **Constant 1**, **Constant 1**, and **Constant 1** reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 27 March 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, she exhausted all administrative remedies available under existing law and regulations within the Department of the Navy. The Board made the following findings:

a. On 4 May 2020, Petitioner entered active duty.

b. On 21 September 2022, Petitioner's Physical Evaluation Board case was accepted.

c. Petitioner married on 2 February 2023.

d. Petitioner transferred to the Permanent Disability Retired List (PDRL) effective 1 April 2023 and automatically enrolled in SBP Spouse coverage because Defense Finance and Accounting Service did not receive a DD Form 2656, Data for Payment of Retired Personnel prior to the effective date of retirement.

e. On 19 March 2024, Petitioner and spouse signed SBP Affidavit before a notary witness requesting to decline SBP coverage.

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CONCLUSION

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record, the Board finds the existence of an injustice warranting the following corrective action. The Board concluded Petitioner provided sufficient evidence to reflect her and spouse's desire to decline SBP coverage. Petitioner married her spouse less than 2-months prior to being placed on the PDRL with less than 3-years of active duty service. The Board surmised Petitioner did not receive adequate counseling on SBP or the requirements to complete DD Form 2656, Data for Payment of Retired Personnel prior to retirement, resulting in being automatically enrolled in SBP coverage. Therefore, the Board determined that under this circumstance, relief is warranted.

RECOMMENDATION

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

Petitioner elected to decline participation in SBP with spouse concurrence prior to transferring to the PDRL effective 1 April 2023.

Note: The Defense Finance and Accounting Service will complete an audit of Petitioner's pay records to determine Petitioner's pay entitlements.

A copy of this Report of Proceedings will be filed in Petitioner's naval record.

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.

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.

