

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

> Docket No. 960-24 Ref: Signature Date

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to Section 1552 of Title 10, United States Code. After careful and conscientious consideration of relevant portions of your naval record and your application, the Board for Correction of Naval Records (Board) found the evidence submitted insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice. Consequently, your application has been denied.

A three-member panel of the Board, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 11 July 2024. 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. In addition, the Board considered the advisory opinion contained in in Navy Recruiting Command (NRC) letter 1133 Ser N35 of 7 February 2024, your response to the opinion, and NRC Program Manager's email dated 24 June 2024.

You requested payment of enlistment bonus for the completion of the Navy Diver Class "A" School. The Board, in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, to include your assertions. However, the Board concluded that you did not meet the eligibility criteria for an Enlistment Bonus for Source Rating (EBSR) under the Advanced Technical Field Navy Diver (ATF/ND) Challenge Program in accordance with Navy Recruiting Command exception to policy (ETP) authorization for enlisted bonus in case of Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 ND candidates and Commander Navy Recruiting Command message 161557Z September 2022. NRC, Program Manager specified the "ETP was written for those Sailors in the Warrior Challenge [WC] training pipeline that were disenrolled from the other WC ratings such as SEAL, SO [Special Warfare Operator], SB [Special Warfare Boat Operator] and offered to reclassify into the ND rating in FY21." Furthermore, "[t]he bonus being executed in FY23 and FY24 is inline with those who entered the Navy in FY21. They go through nearly a 2-year training pipeline prior to being paid the EBSR upon graduation of the training pipeline." The abovementioned message outlined enlistment bonus eligibility for active duty recruits

initially classified or reclassified (change in program, rate, or ship date on or after 17 September 2022; ATF/ND was not listed as an eligible program for an EBSR.

A review of your record indicates that you enlisted on 12 August 2022 and was initially classified under the Hospital Corpsman rating; NAVCRUIT 1133/52, Enlistment Guarantees – Annex "A" did not outline eligibility to any enlistment bonuses. On 20 October 2022, you reclassified and signed NAVCRUIT 1133/52, Enlistment Guarantee – Annex "B" that listed ATF /ND Challenge Program; Enlistment Bonus for College Credit (EBCC) - \$8,000 Bonus; and Enlistment Bonus for Shipping (EBSHP) - \$25,000 Bonus; EBSR was not promised. Additionally, you signed NAVCRUIT 1133/102, Enlistment Bonus Statement of Understanding on 20 October 2022 acknowledging authorization for EBCC and EBSHP only. Thereafter you entered active duty on 28 November 2022 and signed page two of NAVCRUIT 1133/102, Enlistment Bonus Statement of Understanding certifying your eligibility for the EBCC and EBSHP only. You completed Recruit Basic Military Training on 10 February 2023; completed all of your pipeline training on 22 September 2023; and reported to your first permanent duty station on 13 October 2023 in the ND rating. In this connection, the Board substantially concurred with the comments contained in the advisory opinion, and determined a change to your record is not warranted.

You are entitled to have the Board reconsider its decision upon submission of new matters, which will require you to complete and submit a new DD Form 149. New matters are those not previously presented to or 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,