

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

> Docket No. 1050-24 Ref: Signature Date

| Dear | , |
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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.

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 case on its merits. A three-member panel of the Board, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 23 May 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 Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps (HQMC) memorandum 5420 MMEA of 6 February 2024, in which you were notified of their recommendation due to possible contract changes.

On 25 July 2016, you entered active duty. On 1 September 2019, you were promoted to Sergeant/E-5. On 27 September 2019, you reenlisted for 4 years with an End of Current Contract (ECC) of 26 September 2023.

In accordance with MARADMIN 295/22 published on 15 June 2022, this MARADMIN announced the Selective Retention Bonus (SRB) program and the Broken Service SRB program authorized for FY23. With the advent of several new SRB programs, Marines were encouraged to thoroughly review the contents of this bulletin. First term Marines (Zone A) and career Marines (Zone B, C, D, E, F, and G) who reenlisted on or after 14 June 2022 were eligible for the FY23 SRB program. This included any regular component first term or career Marine with an ECC from 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023.

Career Progression (CP) Primary Military Occupational Specialties (PMOS)(s) are listed under paragraph(s) 3.m and 3.n with the CP designation. These PMOSs were authorized bonus payments to Marines who held a feeder PMOS, possessed the intended MOS (IMOS), and were registered for the PMOS producing course. Marines who requested Career Progression reenlistment may have submitted for reenlistment immediately and did not have to wait until their current PMOSs boat spaces were closed out prior to requesting a Career Progression PMOS boat space. Bonus payment for Career Progression PMOSs were be made at the time of reenlistment but upon successful completion of PMOS training and subsequent award of the PMOS. Bonus payment was based upon the FY SRB authorized at the time of reenlistment. Marines who were in training beyond 30 September 2023 were authorized payment of the PMOS. Marines who failed to complete required Career progression PMOS training were re-designated or administratively separated according to the needs of the Marine Corps and would receive no bonus, even if the PMOS the Marine was reclassified into was eligible to receive one.

Zone B applies to those active component Marines with 6 to 10 years of active military service. Marines with exactly 10 years of active service on the date of reenlistment may have been paid a Zone B PMOS bonus if they had not previously received a Zone B PMOS bonus. If they had received a Zone B PMOS bonus, or if no Zone B PMOS bonus was designated, they may have been paid a Zone C PMOS bonus if available. Zone B PMOS bonus payments for Marines who reenlisted for at least 48 months obligated service were authorized as listed below in dollars (bonuses for Marines who reenlisted for 36 to 47 months obligated service were calculated as per para 3.j). Furthermore, no zone "B" SRB for military occupational specialty (MOS) 0631 was authorized. Finally, a zone "B" SRB for MOS 0639CP, E-5, which was capped at \$25,500 for 48 months of additional obligated service was authorized.

On 17 November 2022, your Careerist Active-Duty Reenlistment request was submitted, requesting a 48-month reenlistment in PMOS 0631. On 13 February 2022, under send back to CP Chronological History, it states, "SNM is currently not signed up for the course and does not meet the requirements to get signed up at this current moment." The request was approved by HQMC with no SRB on 15 February 2023.

On 18 February 2023, you reenlisted in PMOS 0631 for 4 years with an ECC of 17 February 2027. On 1 March 2023, you were promoted to Staff Sergeant/E-6.

You requested to receive the FY23 SRB Zone B for career progression PMOS 0639, 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 to be eligible for the FY23 Zone B CP SRB for PMOS 0639, Marines must hold a feeder PMOS, possess the IMOS, and be registered for the PMOS producing course. You reenlisted for 4 years on 18 February 2023 in PMOS 0631. At that time no Zone B SRB was authorized for your PMOS. Additionally, you were not registered for or eligible at that time to register for the PMOS producing course, therefore you are not eligible for the CP SRB for PMOS 0639. Furthermore,

although MARADMIN 643/23<sup>1</sup> waived the 0639 course as a requirement to gain the MOS, it was not published until approximately 10 months after you executed your reenlistment. In this connection, the Board substantially disagreed with the comments contained in the advisory opinion.

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,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In accordance with MARADMIN 643/23 published on 19 December 2023, effective immediately, attendance to career progression training is no longer a requirement to award MOS 0629, 0639, or 0679 to the appropriate feeder MOSs of 0621, 0627,0631, and 0671.