



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

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Docket No. 2733-24  
Ref: Signature Date

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Dear Petitioner:

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to Title 10, United States Code, Section 1552. 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 application on its merits. A three-member panel of the Board, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 6 May 2024. The names and votes of the panel members 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 the 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, applicable statutes, regulations, and policies, to include the 25 July 2018 guidance from the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness regarding equity, injustice or clemency determinations (Wilkie Memo).

You enlisted in the Navy Reserves and began a period of active duty on 22 June 1988. Between 19 October 1989 to 22 November 1989, you commenced two periods of unauthorized absence (UA) totaling 26 days. Upon your return to military custody, you were treated and evaluated for suicidal ideations. Ultimately, you were diagnosed with Malingering, Alcohol Abuse, Severe, Episodic, EPTE, Cannabis Abuse, Episodic, EPTE, Personality Disorder not Otherwise Specified with Borderline and Dependent Features, Severe, EPTE. On 16 December 1989, you began another period of UA, which lasted two days. On 20 December 1989, you received a third NJP for three periods of UA and malingering.

Unfortunately, the documents pertinent to your administrative separation are not in your official military personnel file (OMPF). Notwithstanding, the Board relies on a presumption of regularity to support the official actions of public officers and, in the absence of substantial evidence to the contrary, will presume that they have properly discharged their official duties. Your Certificate

of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214), reveals that you were separated from the Navy on 18 June 1990 with a General (Under Honorable Conditions) (GEN) characterization of service, your narrative reason for separation is "alcohol abuse - rehabilitation failure," your separation code is "JPD/858," and your reenlistment code is "RE-4." Your separation code is consistent with a discharge due to alcohol abuse - rehabilitation failure.

The Board carefully considered all potentially mitigating factors to determine whether the interests of justice warrant relief in your case in accordance with the Wilkie Memo. These included but were not limited to your desire for a discharge upgrade and contentions that: (a) you were not given proper care or advice and felt that you were pushed aside, (b) you were young and immature at the time you served. For purposes of clemency and equity consideration, the Board noted you did not provide supporting documentation describing post-service accomplishments or advocacy letters.

After thorough review, the Board concluded these potentially mitigating factors were insufficient to warrant relief. Specifically, the Board determined that your misconduct, as evidenced by your NJP, outweighed these mitigating factors. In making this finding, the Board considered the seriousness of your misconduct and found that your conduct showed a complete disregard for military authority and regulations. Further, the Board determined you already received a large measure of clemency when the Navy discharged you with a GEN characterization instead of processing you for an Other Than Honorable discharge.

As a result, the Board concluded significant negative aspects of your service outweigh the positive aspects and continues to warrant a GEN characterization. Even in light of the Wilkie Memo and reviewing the record holistically, the Board did not find evidence of an error or injustice that warrants granting you the relief you requested or granting relief as a matter of clemency or equity. Accordingly, given the totality of the circumstances, the Board determined that your request does not merit relief.

You are entitled to have the Board reconsider its decision upon the 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,

5/29/2024

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