

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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

> Docket No. 3007-24 Ref: Signature Date

From: Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records

To: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF

Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C. § 1552

(b) 10 U.S.C. 654 (Repeal)

(c) UNSECDEF Memo of 20 Sep 11 (Correction of Military Records Following Repeal of 10 U.S.C. 654

Encl: (1) DD Form 149 with attachments

(2) Case summary

- 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 consistent with references (b) and (c).
- 2. The Board, consisting of allegations of error and injustice on 24 May 2024 and, pursuant to its regulations, determined the corrective action indicated below should be taken. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of Petitioner's application together with all material submitted in support thereof, relevant portions of Petitioner's naval record, and applicable statutes, regulations, and policies to included references (b) and (c).
- 3. The Board, having reviewed all the facts of record pertaining to Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice, finds as follows:
- a. Before applying to this Board, Petitioner exhausted all administrative remedies available under existing law and regulations within the Department of the Navy.
- b. Although enclosure (1) was not filed in a timely manner, it is in the interest of justice to review the application on its merits.
- c. Petitioner enlisted in the Marine Corps and began a period of active duty on 31 March 1960. On 23 July 1962, Petitioner submitted a statement to a criminal investigator admitting his engagement in homosexual acts. On 27 July 1962, Petitioner was evaluated by a medical officer, at which point, he admitted that the statement he submitted to the investigator officer was correct. On 3 August 1962, Petitioner was charged with committing the act of sodomy. Subsequently, Petitioner requested to be administratively separated from the Marine Corps with

an Other Than Honorable (OTH) discharge characterization of service in lieu of trial by court martial. The Petitioner's commanding officer recommended that he be administratively separated from the Marine Corps with an OTH discharge characterization by reason of sexual perversion. The separation authority approved the recommendation and, on 12 September 1962, Petitioner was so discharged.

- d. Post discharge, Petitioner to the Naval Discharge Review Board (NDRB) for relief. On 8 October 1968, the NDRB denied the Petitioner's request after concluding his discharge was proper as issued.
- e. Petitioner's counsel contends he was discharged solely on the basis of his sexuality. Prior to his admittance of the sexual act, Petitioner was an outstanding service member with average marks of 3.9 and above.
- f. Reference (c) sets forth the Department of the Defense's current policies, standards, and procedures for correction of military records following the "don't ask, don't tell" (DADT) repeal of 10 U.S.C. 654. It provides service Discharge Review Boards with guidance to normally grant requests to change the characterization of service to "Honorable," narrative reason for discharge to "Secretarial Authority," SPD code to "JFF1," and reenlistment code to "RE-1J," when the original discharge was based solely on DADT or a similar policy in place prior to enactment of it and there are no aggravating factors in the record, such as misconduct.

CONCLUSION:

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record, and especially in light of references (b) through (c), the Board concludes Petitioner's request warrants relief. While the Board noted Petitioner was charged for his homosexual conduct, they also concluded Petitioner's record supports that he was solely discharged on the basis of his homosexual conduct and had no other aggravating factors in his record. Therefore, the Board determined Petitioner is entitled to full relief under reference (c).

RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the above, the Board directs the following corrective action:

That Petitioner be issued a new DD Form 214, for the period ending 12 September 1962, indicating his characterization of service as "Honorable," narrative reason for separation as "Secretarial Authority," separation authority as "MARCORSEPMAN Para. 6214," separation code as "JFF1," and reentry code as "RE-1J."

That Petitioner be issued a new discharge certificate.

That no further changes be made to Petitioner's record.

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

- 5. 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.
- 6. 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 reference (a), has been approved by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.

