



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

■
Docket No. 3597-24
Ref: Signature Date

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

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD ICO [REDACTED], USN [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Ref: (a) Title 10 U.S.C. § 1552
(b) BUPERSNOTE 1780

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 his naval record be corrected to allocate 1-month of unused Post-9/11 GI Bill education benefits to his youngest dependent son.

2. The Board, consisting of [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 15 May 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, he exhausted all administrative remedies available under existing law and regulations within the Department of the Navy. The Board made the following findings:

a. The Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act (Post-9/11 GI Bill, Public Law 110-252) was signed into law on 30 June 2008 and became effective on 1 August 2009. The bill provides financial support for education and housing for service members with at least 90 days of service on or after 11 September 2001. The act also includes provision for qualifying service members to transfer education benefits to their eligible dependents. General descriptions of the essential components of the law were widely available beginning in summer 2008 but specific implementing guidance was not published until summer 2009.

b. In accordance with reference (b), an individual may not add dependents after retirement or separation from the Armed Forces but may modify or revoke transferred entitlement for existing designated dependents.

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[REDACTED]

c. On [REDACTED], Petitioner's child, [REDACTED] was born.

d. Petitioner's Active Duty Service Date was 1 March 1994.

e. On [REDACTED], Petitioner's child, [REDACTED] was born.

f. On 27 April 2005, Petitioner married [REDACTED] and acquired 3-stepchildren: [REDACTED] born on [REDACTED], [REDACTED] born on [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] born on [REDACTED].

g. Petitioner reenlisted on 18 August 2006 for 4 years, and on 1 March 2010 for 4 years. Thereafter, Petitioner extended for 7 months and subsequently reenlisted on 29 September 2014 for 2 years.

h. On 14 October 2014, Petitioner submitted Transfer of Education Benefits (TEB) application and request to allocate benefits to [REDACTED], and [REDACTED]. The Service rejected the application indicating, Petitioner "has not committed to the required additional service time."

i. On [REDACTED], Petitioner's child, [REDACTED] was born.

j. On 26 June 2016, Petitioner reenlisted for 2 years, followed by extending for an aggregated of 22 months.

k. Petitioner submitted applications on 31 October 2018, 15 November 2018, and 25 January 2019. The Service rejected the 31 October 2018 and 15 November 2018 applications indicating, Petitioner "has not committed to the required additional service time." The 25 January 2019 application was approved on 28 January 2019 with an obligation end date of 29 February 2020 and allocated education benefits to [REDACTED], and [REDACTED].

l. Petitioner transferred to Fleet Reserve effective 1 April 2020.

m. On 1 April 2024, Petitioner adjusted the months of education benefits to [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED].

CONCLUSION

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record, the Board finds the existence of an injustice warranting the following corrective action. Petitioner was approved to transfer Post-9/11 GI Bill education benefits and completed his service obligation, however failed to allocate benefits to each of his dependents prior to transferring to the Fleet Reserve. Although Petitioner did not complete the proper administrative requirements, the Board found that had he received clear counseling from his command regarding the inability to distribute the education benefits upon transferring to the Fleet Reserve, he would have taken appropriate action. Therefore, the Board determined that under this circumstance, relief is warranted.

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[REDACTED]

RECOMMENDATION

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

Petitioner allocated unused education benefits to [REDACTED] through the MilConnect TEB portal prior to transferring to the Fleet Reserve effective 1 April 2020.

Note: Commander, Navy Personnel Command (PERS-311) will ensure Petitioner's BEAST Family Member History is updated with the aforementioned approved allocation of education benefits.

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.

6/6/2024

