



**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. 4894-24  
Ref: Signature Date

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Dear Petitioner:

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to 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 application on its merits. A three-member panel of the Board, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 19 August 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 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 Marine Corps Reserves and began a period of active duty on 4 June 1959. On 3 December 1959, you were discharged with an Honorable characterization of service by reason of expiration of term of service. On 1 January 1967, you were removed from the Marine Corps standby reserves with a General (Under Honorable Conditions) discharge characterization of service.

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 contention that: (a) your DD Form 214 states your character of service as Honorable while your discharge certificate states General (Under Honorable Conditions), (b) you are a senior citizen, married, and a certified real estate appraiser, (c) you are in the process of applying for Department of Veterans Affairs benefits and were told that you needed your DD Form 214, which you recently acquired and enclosed with your application, (c) having a General (Under Honorable Conditions) (GEN)

discharge certificate has always bothered you as you are reluctant to displayed it, and (d) you have had numerous health issues, perhaps associated with the █ contaminated waters. For purposes of clemency and equity consideration, the Board considered the evidence you provided in support of your application.

After thorough review, the Board concluded these potentially mitigating factors were insufficient to warrant relief. Specifically, the Board found you were issued a DD Form 214 with an Honorable characterization of service for a period of active duty served while in the Marine Corps Reserves. Further, the Board observed you were assigned a GEN discharge characterization from the Marine Corps Reserve based on your overall performance and conduct marks. Therefore, the Board concluded you were appropriately issued a GEN discharge certificate. The fact you were assigned an Honorable characterization for your brief period of active duty did not persuade the Board that you deserve an Honorable characterization for your entire Reserve enlistment. 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 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,

9/11/2024

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