

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

> Docket No. 4902-24 Ref: Signature Date



Dear

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.

A three-member panel of the Board, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 16 October 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.

You requested to declined participation in Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP). The Board, in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, to include your assertions. The Board concluded that Department of Defense Financial Management Regulation 7000.14-R specifies that SBP elections must be made prior to retired pay becoming payable and the election to participate in or decline SBP is irrevocable. Written spousal concurrence is required when the member elects to decline coverage or provide the spouse with less than the maximum SBP coverage available, to include electing child-only coverage. If not all requirements for an election needing the spouse's concurrence have been satisfied prior to retirement, for whatever reason, full spouse costs, and coverage will be implemented, regardless of any request by the member to do otherwise. The signature of the spouse must be notarized.

A review of your record reflects that on 7 January 2003, you married your first spouse and your child was born on 20 October 2013. You divorced on 17 December 2018 and Judgement of Dissolution of Marriage directed SBP Child only coverage. You were ordered to make beneficiary election utilizing the necessary military forms within three months of entry of the judgment and to ensure former spouse was nominated as executor of the SBP. On 29 January

2019, you married your second spouse. On 1 February 2024, you signed DD Form 2656, Data for Payment of Retired Personnel and elected not to participate in SBP. On 21 February 2024, your spouse signed the form, however, her signature was not properly notarized. Thereafter, you transferred to the Retired List effective 1 April 2024, and automatically enrolled in SBP Spouse only coverage at the full gross pay level of coverage as a result of your spouse's signature not being properly notarized.

The Board is required to comply with the stipulations of your Judgement of Dissolution of Marriage regarding SBP. Therefore, the Board determined that a change to your record is not warranted and recommended you submit a new DD Form 149, Application for Correction of Military Record to comply with your divorce decree.

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,