

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

> Docket No. 5065-24 Ref: Signature Date

From: Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records

To: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF USMC

Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C. § 1552 (b) USECDEF Memo of 25 Jul 18 (Wilkie Memo)

Encl: (1) DD Form 149 w/ enclosures

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, hereinafter referred to as the Board, requesting to change his narrative reason for separation.

2. The Board, consisting of **Example**, **and Example**, and **Example**, reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 14 June 2024 and, pursuant to its regulations, determined that 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, applicable statutes, regulations, and policies, to include reference (b).

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. On 7 February 1995, Petitioner underwent a medical evaluation which noted a potential diagnosis for a preexisting cardiac medical condition. Petitioner subsequently enlisted in the Marine Corps and commenced a period of active duty on 6 March 1995. He underwent a follow-up diagnostic medical evaluation which confirmed Petitioner's heart murmur which existed prior to his enlistment. Based on the physicians observation and diagnosis, Petitioner was recommended to be discharged. On 23 March 1995, he was notified of the initiation of administrative separation proceedings by reason of defective enlistment-erroneous enlistment, at which point, he waived his right to consult with counsel. His commanding officer recommended

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF USMC

his discharge due to his defective enlistment induction based on his medical condition. The separation authority approved the recommendation and, on 27 March 1995, Petitioner was discharged with an uncharacterized character of service by reason of "Defective enlistment and Induction-erroneous enlistment- Heart Murmur."

d. Post-discharge, Petitioner changed his name to "

CONCLUSION:

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record, the Board concludes that Petitioner's request warrants relief. Specifically, in keeping with the letter and spirit of the current guidance, the Board determined that it would be an injustice to label one's discharge as being for a specific medical condition. Describing Petitioner's service in this manner attaches a considerable negative and unnecessary stigma, and fundamental fairness and medical privacy concerns dictate a change. Accordingly, the Board concluded that Petitioner's discharge should not be labeled as being for a specific medical condition and that certain remedial administrative changes are warranted to the DD Form 214.

Finally, the Board determined Petitioner's assigned reentry code remains appropriate in light of his original basis for separation. Ultimately, the Board determined any injustice in Petitioner's record is adequately addressed by the recommended corrective action.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Service Member be issued a new DD Form 214, for the period ending 27 March 1995, indicating a separation reason of "Secretarial Authority," separation authority of "MARCORSEPMAN par. 6214," and SPD of "JFF1."

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

A copy of this report of proceedings 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 Regulation, 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.

7/23/2024

