



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

Docket No. 5905-24  
Ref: Signature Date

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

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF [REDACTED], USN,  
XXX-XX-[REDACTED]

Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C. § 1552  
(b) Petitioner's Naval Record  
(c) Petitioner's Health Record

Encl: (1) DD Form 149 w/enclosures  
(2) CO, [REDACTED] 6520 Ser 53/0199 Memo, subj: Recommendation for Routine Administrative Separation ICO [Petitioner], 14 Aug 06  
(3) NAVPERS 1070/613, Administrative Remarks, 22 Aug 06  
(4) CO, [REDACTED] 6520 Ser 53/0212 Memo, subj: Recommendation for Routine Administrative Separation ICO [Petitioner], 11 Sep 06  
(5) NAVPERS 1910/32, Administrative Separation Processing Notification Procedure, 19 Sep 06  
(6) CO, [REDACTED], 1900 Ser OOJ/8622 Memo, subj: Discharge ICO [Petitioner], 3 Oct 06  
(7) CO, [REDACTED], 1900 Ser OOJ/8621 Memo, subj: [Petitioner] Report of Administrative Separation, 13 Oct 06  
(8) DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, ending on 13 Oct 06  
(9) Advisory Opinion by Ph.D., Licensed Clinical Psychologist

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 her "character of service be changed to medical or honorable."
2. The Board, consisting of [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 5 December 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 of the evidence of record pertaining to Petitioner's allegations of error or injustice, finds as follows:

a. Before applying to this Board, Petitioner exhausted all administrative remedies available under existing law and regulation within the Department of the Navy. Although Petitioner's

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application was not filed in a timely manner, the Board, in the interest of justice, waived the statute of limitations and considered the case on its merits.

b. A review of reference (b), reveals Petitioner enlisted in the Navy and entered active duty on 30 May 2006. On 11 August 2006, she was seen for a psychiatric evaluation and diagnosed with Borderline Personality Disorder. By memorandum of 14 August 2006, Commanding Officer (CO), [REDACTED] recommended CO, [REDACTED] [REDACTED], administratively separate Petitioner because she “manifest[ed] a long standing disorder of character and behavior that [was] of such severity as to render her incapable of serving adequately in the Navy.” Further, CO, [REDACTED], stated Petitioner would “most likely become an increasing administrative burden to her command with deteriorating performance, conduct, reliability, and judgment.” Lastly, CO, [REDACTED], recommended assignment of a RE-4 reenlistment code. See enclosure (2).

c. CO, [REDACTED] issued Petitioner an Administrative Remarks (Page 13) counseling/warning on 22 August 2006 stating she was “being retained in the naval service” but noting her Borderline Personality Disorder diagnosis which rendered her “potential for future active naval service to the United States Navy” as inadequate. By her initials, Petitioner acknowledged receipt of the Page 13 entry and indicated she did not desire to make a statement. See enclosure (3).

d. By memorandum of 11 September 2006, CO, [REDACTED], informed CO, [REDACTED], Petitioner’s clinical impression of Borderline Personality Disorder remained unchanged. The CO further stated Petitioner was not considered mentally ill, did not require and would not benefit from hospitalization or psychiatric treatment, and was not motivated for further service. Again, CO, [REDACTED], recommended assignment of a RE-4 reenlistment code. See enclosure (4).

e. On 19 September 2006, CO, [REDACTED], notified Petitioner she was being processed for administrative separation by reason of Convenience of the Government due to Personality Disorder. Petitioner waived her rights, with the exception of electing her right to obtain copies of the documents that would be forwarded to the separation authority supporting the basis for the proposed separation. See enclosure (5).

f. A review of reference (c), Petitioner’s health record, indicates that on 20 September 2006, Petitioner was evaluated because of her planned separation from active duty service and found to be physically qualified to separate. The entry specifically stated Petitioner had no medical condition that disqualified her from the performance of her duties or warranted Disability Evaluation System (DES) processing.

g. By memorandum of 3 October 2006, CO, [REDACTED], directed [REDACTED] to discharge Petitioner with an Uncharacterized (Entry Level Separation) with narrative reason “Personality Disorder” and a RE-4 reentry code. See enclosure (6).

h. By memorandum of 13 October 2006, CO, [REDACTED], notified Commander, Navy Personnel Command, of Petitioner’s separation from the naval service with an uncharacterized

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discharge by reason of Convenience of the Government for a diagnosed borderline personality disorder. See enclosures (7) and (8).

i. Petitioner contends her discharge due to Personality Disorder should have been considered “a medical disability.” She further explained the Government has not “even acknowledged” her as a veteran and denied her healthcare and disability “which has only led to further damage.” See enclosure (1).

j. In order to assist the Board in reaching a decision, a licensed clinical psychologist provided the Advisory Opinion (AO) at enclosure (9), explaining Petitioner was appropriately referred for psychological evaluation during her enlistment and diagnosed with Personality Disorder “based on observed behaviors and performance during her period of service, the information she chose to disclose to the mental health clinician, and the psychological evaluation performed by the mental health clinician.” The AO further stated a personality disorder diagnosis is “pre-existing to military service by definition, and indicates lifelong characterological traits unsuitable for military service, since they are not typically amenable to treatment within the operational requirements of Naval Service.” The AO determined Petitioner’s personal statement was not “sufficiently detailed to establish clinical symptoms or provide a nexus” and concluded additional records, describing Petitioner’s diagnosis, symptoms, and their specific link to her separation, “would aid in rendering an alternate opinion.” The AO was provided to Petitioner for review and comment on 22 October 2024, and when Petitioner did not provide a rebuttal response within the allotted time, her request for relief at enclosure (1) was considered by the Board.

## CONCLUSION

Upon careful review and consideration of all of the evidence of record, the Board concluded Petitioner’s request warrants partial relief. Specifically, the Board observed Petitioner’s Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214) at enclosure (8) describes her narrative reason for separation as “Personality Disorder.” In keeping with the letter and spirit of current guidance, the Board determined it would be an injustice to label one’s discharge as being for a diagnosed character and behavior and/or adjustment disorder. 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 Petitioner’s discharge should not be labeled as being for a mental health-related condition and that certain remedial administrative changes are warranted to the DD Form 214.

Notwithstanding the recommended corrective action below, the Board determined Petitioner had no basis for medical retirement and denied her request. In reaching its decision, the Board observed that in order to qualify for military disability benefits through the DES with a finding of unfitness, a service member must be unable to perform the duties of his/her office, grade, rank or rating as a result of a qualifying disability condition. Alternatively, a member may be found unfit if his/her disability represents a decided medical risk to the health or the member or to the welfare or safety of other members; the member’s disability imposes unreasonable requirements on the military to maintain or protect the member; or the member possesses two or more

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disability conditions which have an overall effect of causing unfitness even though, standing alone, are not separately unfitting.

In reviewing Petitioner's record, the Board concluded the preponderance of the evidence does not support a finding that she met any of the criteria for unfitness at the time of her discharge. The Board found Petitioner failed to provide sufficient evidence to demonstrate she had an unfitting condition at the time she was discharged from active duty with a personality disorder. In particular, the Board found the basis for her discharge from active duty due to personality disorder was supported by rational medical evidence. Accordingly, based on the foregoing, the Board denied Petitioner's request for a military disability retirement.

#### RECOMMENDATION

In view of the above, the Board recommends the following corrective action be taken on Petitioner's naval record:

Petitioner will be issued a new DD Form 214 for the period 30 May 2006 ending 13 October 2006, indicate her narrative reason for separation was Secretarial Authority, the SPD code assigned was JFF, and the separation authority was MILPERSMAN 1910-164.

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

No further changes will be made to 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.

1/27/2025

