

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

> Docket No. 6346-24 Ref: Signature date

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

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF FORMER MEMBER XXX XX USMC

Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C. §1552

Encl: (1) DD Form 149 with attachments (2) Case summary (3) Subject's naval record (excerpts)

1. Pursuant to the provisions of reference (a), Petitioner filed enclosure (1) with the Board for Correction of Naval Records (Board), requesting addition of the Bronze Star Medal with Combat V to his DD Form 214. Enclosure (2) and (3) applies.

2. The Board, consisting of **Constant and Annual An**

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. Petitioner enlisted in the Marine Corps and began a period of active duty on 7 June 1998. Petitioner was deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom from 4 May 2006 to 22 November 2006. On 1 June 2007, Petitioner was honorably discharged.

d. Upon his discharge, Petitioner was issued an Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214) that did not indicate his receipt of a Bronze Star.

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e. On 18 April 2024, Petitioner submitted a request to Headquarter Marine Corps Military Awards Branch (MMMA) that the Bronze Star with Combat V (BSMV) be added to his DD Form 214.

f. On 14 May 2024, Head, Policy and Verification Unit Military Awards Section (MMPB) notified Petitioner that the Army Award and Decorations Branch could not validate his entitlement to the BSMV.

j. Petitioner contends he was awarded the BSMV while serving with the United States Army during Operation Enduring Freedom from 4 May 2006 to 22 November 2006 in Afghanistan. As evidence, he submitted his Bronze Star with "V" device certificate signed by a BG, U.S. Army and describing his actions in support of the award.

CONCLUSION:

Upon review and consideration of the evidence of record, the Board determined Petitioner's request warrants relief.

The Board relied heavily on the Petitioner's record of service in Afghanistan and award certificate to validate his request. Based on the totality of evidence, the Board determined Petitioner is entitled to the Bronze Star with Combat V.

In view of the above, the Board directs the following corrective action.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Petitioner be issued a "Correction to DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty" (DD Form 215) for the period ending 1 June 2007, to reflect in Block 13 that Petitioner is entitled to the Bronze Star with Combat V (BSMV).

That no further changes be made to the record.

That 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

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corrective action, taken under the authority of reference (a), has been approved by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.

