



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

[REDACTED]
Docket No. 7089-24
Ref: Signature Date

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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 case on its merits. A three-member panel of the Board, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 26 November 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 applications, together with all material submitted in support thereof, relevant portions of your naval record and applicable statutes, regulations, and policies. In addition, the Board considered the [REDACTED] Advisory Opinion (AO) provided by Navy Personnel Command (PERS-312). Although you were afforded an opportunity to submit a rebuttal, you chose not to do so.

Regarding your request for a personal appearance, the Board determined that a personal appearance with or without counsel will not materially add to their understanding of the issues involved. Therefore, the Board determined that a personal appearance was not necessary and considered your case based on the evidence of record.

The Board carefully considered your request for correction to Block 25b, "Related Civilian Occupation," on your DD Form 214 (DD-214), Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty to remove reference to Aviation Electrician or Electronics Foreman. The Board considered your contentions that this designation is incorrect because you served as an Airman Apprentice (AA) and you were never trained or qualified as an Electrician, before or during military service, because your color blindness was a disqualifier for that specialty. You also assert that your primary duties involved serving on the flight deck aboard the [REDACTED], during flight operations, not as an Aviation Electrician. Lastly, you claim that this erroneous designation has

negatively impacted your Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) disability claims for hearing loss and tinnitus; as it creates a misleading nexus unrelated to your actual duties. You attribute this error due to your lack of awareness at the time of discharge and state that the correction is necessary to ensure an accurate record of your military service.

The Board, however, substantially concurred with the AO that your DD-214 remains accurate and in accordance with applicable guidance. In this regard, the Board noted the AO concluded your defense grouping encompasses multiple aviation-related ratings including those requiring specialized qualifications like normal color perception. Further, the Board noted Block 3a identifies you as an Airman Apprentice. Additionally, the Board determined your service records show no evidence of an error in your assigned occupational specialty. Moreover, the Board noted the performance of flight deck duties does not preclude your recommended classification under a broader aviation specialty. However, the Board further noted the specific designation of "Electronics Foreman" for related civilian occupation aligns with the general aviation duty categories assigned during your years of service; particularly given your voluntary assignment to active duty for general assignment afloat or ashore on 21 February 1964. Finally, the Board considered your claim that this erroneous designation has negatively impacted your VA claims for hearing loss and tinnitus; however, the Board noted your claims do not establish grounds for administrative correction under relevant policies concerning military records.

Therefore, the Board concluded that there is no probable material error, substantive inaccuracy, or injustice warranting corrective action. Accordingly, given the totality of the circumstances, the Board determined that your request does not merit relief.

The Board thanks you for your selfless and faithful service to this country.

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,

1/16/2025

