

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

> Docket No. 7271-24 Ref: Signature Date

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 19 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 application, 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 advisory opinion contained in Chief of the Nurse Corps, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (N01C3) letter 5400 Ser N01C/24UN01C30070 of 29 July 2024, which was previously provided to you for comment.

The Board determined that your personal appearance, with or without counsel, would 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.

In accordance with OPNAVINST 1120.7A, published on 20 April 2012, that "[t]o be eligible for appointment in the NC or for voluntary recall from the RC to the ADL, applicants must meet the following requirements: a. Education (1) Must be a graduate of a school of nursing accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) that conferred a nursing baccalaureate or an advanced nursing degree."

"BUMED (MOONC) shall appoint an NC PRB to examine the professional qualifications of all applicants. The PRB shall be composed of senior NC officers...The PRB will review the applicant's credentials, including academic performance, post-graduate education,

professional and managerial experience, professional recognition such as membership in professional societies and authorship of professional publications, professional reputation, current experience in a primary specialty, and level of certification and licensure. The PRB shall recommend to BUMED (MOONC) which specific qualifications of the entry grade credit table are met recommend entry grade credit for those qualifications... Once BUMED (MOONC) has approved the applicant's professional qualification, DCNO (MPTE) (NI) shall determine whether the applicant is otherwise qualified for a commission as an NC officer in the specialty for which designated."

"Entry Grade Credit Table. Rule 3: Qualification. Successful completion of advanced degrees in nursing or related fields which contribute to fulfilling the requirements for assignment to the nursing specialty authorized by DCNO (MPTE) (NI) and identified by a specialty classification code in reference (o), part B to which the applicant will be appointed...Credit shall not be awarded for a degree earned concurrently with the Baccalaureate degree and shall not be awarded for the qualifying degree for entry into the NC."

"Rule 4: Qualification. Credit may be granted for nurse experience gained as a fully licensed Baccalaureate prepared nurse. Credit: ½ year for each year of experience up to a maximum of 3 years (if less than 6 months, no credit will be granted)."

On 21 May 2020, Listed Degree of Master of Science in Nursing conferred.

On 27 September 2021, you were issued a Nurse Corps Entry Grade Worksheet (Reference: OPNAINST 1120.7A Date: 20 April 2012) with the following: "Experience as a fully licensed Baccalaureate-prepared nurse (one-half year for each year, up to a maximum of 3 years credit) for the period of 22 September 2020 to 27 September 2021 for total service credit of 6 months and 2 days."

On 2 March 2022, Navy Recruiting Command notified you that "Congratulations on your selection to the Nurse Corps Direct Accession Program. You will be commissioned as a Nurse Corps Officer (2900). You should be proud of the fact that you were selected for this extremely competitive program."

"Your commissioning documents will be prepared once your appointment has been confirmed by Office of the Secretary of Defense. Once confirmed, your commissioning documents will be forwarded to the local Navy Recruiting District. The District will contact you after receipt of the documents in order to set up a time for your commissioning ceremony."

"Upon commissioning as an officer in the Navy Nurse Corps, you will attend Officer Development School (ODS) class at

On 16 March 2022, you were signed a Memorandum of Understanding for Initial Date of Rank (NAVCRUIT 1131/245) agreeing to the following: Date of rank 27 September 2021. Entry

Grade Credit Based on Construction Credit for Professional Education and Experience, and Credit for Prior Commissioned Service of 6 months and 2 days. Official date of rank of 25 March 2021.

On 16 March 2022, you signed an Officer Appointment Acceptance and Oath of Office (NAVPERS 1000/4) with a designator code of 2900 (Staff Corps Officer billet requiring Nursing specialty) in the active U.S. Navy listing block 19 (Permanent grade) ENS, block 20 (Permanent grade date) 25 March 2021, block 21 (Present Grade) ENS, and block 22 (Present grade date) 25 March 2021.

On 6 May 2022, you transferred from and arrived to on 6 May 2022 for temporary duty. On 14 May 2022, you transferred from and arrived at on 21 May 2022 for duty.

You requested for your rank at time of entry be adjusted to Lieutenant Junior Grade (LTJG/O2) vice Ensign and be promoted to Lieutenant (LT/O3) accordingly and receive back pay. The Board in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, to include your assertions. You assert that your two years of nursing experience and a master's degree should have allowed you to enter the service as a LTJG. However, the Board concluded that your experience was properly credited, and that the master's degree was the qualifying degree for your appointment to Nurse Corps Officer. As such, you are not entitled to entry grade credit. Additionally, you signed your entry grade worksheet without dispute. In this connection, the Board substantially concurred with the comments contained in the aforementioned advisory opinion.

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.

6	11/22/2024
Deputy Director	
Signed by:	

Sincerely,

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