

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

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

> Docket No. 8021-24 Ref: Signature Date

## 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 27 August 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, as well as the 3 July 2024 decision by the Marine Corps Performance Evaluation Review Board (PERB), the 17 April 2024 Advisory Opinion (AO) provided to the PERB by the Manpower Management Division Records and Performance Branch (MMRP-30), and your response to the PERB Decision and AO.

The Board carefully considered your request to remove your fitness report for the reporting period 19 June 2021 to 31 December 2021. The Board considered your contentions that the fitness report does was used as a counseling tool and does not accurately reflect your accomplishments during the reporting period or the hardships associated with the merging of two battalions during the reporting period. You contend that the battalion was inspected on two separation occasions and several discrepancies were identified within your section concerning the government travel charge card (GTCC) and defense travel system (DTS) programs. Next, you claim that you contacted other battalions and researched how to develop proper procedures to fix the programs. The Board also considered your claims that your reporting senior (RS) sent the knowledgeable Marines from your section to the field to fill 8014 (any Marine) billets instead of keeping them behind to assist you in fixing the discrepancies while you struggled to survive

and worked 12 hours a day to sustain the S1 commitments for the battalion during the peak of COVID.

The Board, however, substantially concurred with the AO and the PERB Decision that the report is valid as written and filed, in accordance with the applicable Performance Evaluation System (PES) Manual guidance. In this regard, the Board noted that you provided insufficient evidence to regarding your claims that the RS provided you with an unjust evaluation. The AO further notes that the RS comments were favorable and unexceptional. The Board noted the fitness report was not adverse, did not reference any pending legal matters, and properly reflected your duty assignment as Administrative Chief. The Board determined that your contentions lack validation beyond your personal statement. Thus, the Board concluded that there is no probable material error, substantive inaccuracy, or injustice warranting removal of your fitness report. Accordingly, given the totality of the circumstances, the Board determined that your request does not merit relief.

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.

