



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

Docket No. 8905-24  
Ref: Signature Date

Dear [REDACTED],

This is in reference to your application for correction of your father's naval record pursuant to Section 1552 of Title 10, United States Code. After careful and conscientious consideration of relevant portions of your father's 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 6 May 2025. 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 father's naval record and applicable statutes, regulations, and policies. In addition, the Board considered the advisory opinion contained in Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps letter [REDACTED], which was previously provided to you for comment.

You requested to correct your father's rank to sergeant/E-5 on his Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214). The Board, in its review of your father's entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors to include your assertions. However, the Board concluded that your father's promotion warrant to the rank of sergeant was in the Marine Corps Reserve and was effective on 1 October 2012 which was after his 5 August 2012 release from active duty. Therefore, correction to your father's active duty DD Form 214 is not warranted. Furthermore, the Board noted that a DD Form 214 is only issued for active duty service, thus your father's rank to corporal/E-4 reflects the proper rank/grade at the time his DD Form 214 was issued.

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 Regulations, Section 723.6(e)), the aforementioned information was validated by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.

Unfortunately, the Board cannot change your father's DD Form 214, however there is no reason why his final rank cannot be used on his head stone to reflect the highest grade served. As stated, the Board acts on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy and this letter serves as official correspondence for the Secretary of the Navy which should be sufficient documentation to promulgate his highest rank on his head stone.

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,

5/20/2025

