



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

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Docket No. 9324-24
Ref: Signature Date

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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 November 2024. The names and votes of the panel members 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, to include the 25 July 2018 guidance from the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness regarding equity, injustice, or clemency determinations (Wilkie Memo).

You enlisted in the Marine Corps and began active duty on 10 April 2006. On 19 April 2006, you tested positive for cocaine on your urinalysis. Consequently, you were notified that you were being recommended for administrative discharge from the Marine Corps due to fraudulent enlistment. Ultimately, you were discharged with an uncharacterized entry level separation (ELS) on 13 May 2006.

The Board carefully considered all potentially mitigating factors to determine whether the interests of justice warrant relief in your case in accordance with the Wilkie Memo. These included, but were not limited to, your desire to upgrade your discharge character of service and contentions that: (1) you were not given another chance to give another urinalysis, or explain why you tested positive, (2) you were treated poorly by others who were dealing with individuals who didn't pass or were leaving bootcamp, and (3) you had no discipline issues. For purposes of clemency and equity consideration, the Board noted that you did not provide supporting documentation describing post-service accomplishments or advocacy letters.

After thorough review, the Board concluded these potentially mitigating factors were insufficient to warrant relief. Specifically, the Board determined that you were properly assigned an uncharacterized ELS based on your time in service. Service regulations direct those members discharged within their first 180 days of active-duty service be assigned an uncharacterized entry-level separation. While there are exceptions to this policy for misconduct or exceptional performance, the Board determined that neither apply in your case. Finally, the Board found no error or injustice with the Marine Corps' decision to process you for administrative separation based on your positive urinalysis. The Board noted there is no requirement to provide a service member with another urinalysis after an initial positive urinalysis.

As a result, even in light of the Wilkie Memo and reviewing the record holistically, the Board did not find evidence of an error or injustice that warrants granting you the relief you requested or granting relief as a matter of clemency or equity. Accordingly, given the totality of the circumstances, the Board determined 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.

Sincerely,

1/6/2025

