

Docket No. 9370-24 Ref: Signature Date

- From: Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records
- To: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF FORMER MEMBER USN, XXX-XX-

- Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C. §1552
  - (b) 10 U.S.C. 654 (Repeal)
  - (c) UNSECDEF Memo of 20 Sep 11 (Correction of Military Records Following Repeal of 10 U.S.C. 654)
- Encl: (1) DD Form 149 with attachments (2) Case summary (3) Subject's naval record (excerpts)

1. Pursuant to the provisions of reference (a), Petitioner, a former member of the Navy, filed enclosure (1) requesting her DD Form 214 be corrected consistent with references (b) and (c), and that her voluntary statement, made on 8 November 1985, be removed from her official record. (1) and (2) apply.

2. The Board, consisting of **Construction**, **Construction**, and **Construction**, reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 10 March 2025 and, pursuant to its regulations, determined that the corrective action indicated below should be taken. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of Petitioner's application together with all material submitted in support thereof, relevant portions of Petitioner's naval record, and applicable statutes, regulations, and policies, to include references (b) and (c).

3. The Board, having reviewed all the facts of record pertaining to Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice finds as follows:

a. Before applying to this Board, Petitioner exhausted all administrative remedies available under existing law and regulations within the Department of the Navy.

b. Although enclosure (1) was not filed in a timely manner, it is in the interest of justice to review the application on its merits.

c. Petitioner enlisted in the Navy and began a period of active service on 22 August 1984.

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d. On 8 November 1985, pursuant to an investigation, Petitioner made a voluntary statement wherein she admitted to having felt homosexual desires since joining the Navy and to committing homosexual acts in June 1985.

e. Consequently, she was notified of administrative separation processing by reason of homosexuality. After being notified of her rights, Petitioner consulted with legal counsel and elected to submit a written statement in response to the intended separation. She additionally requested the right to obtain copies of documents used in the separation process. Petitioner submitted her written statement on 19 November 1985, again stating her homosexual preference, and requesting an Honorable (HON) characterization of service.

f. After appropriate review, Petitioner was discharged with an HON characterization on 17 December 1985.

g. Reference (c) sets forth the Department of the Navy's current policies, standards, and procedures for correction of military records following the "don't ask, don't tell" (DADT) repeal of 10 U.S.C. 654. It provides service Discharge Review Boards with the guidance to normally grant requests to change the characterization of service to "Honorable," narrative reason for discharge to "Secretarial Authority," separation code to "JFF," and reentry code to "RE-1J" when the original discharge was based solely on DADT or a similar policy in place prior to enactment of it and there are no aggravating factors in the record, such as misconduct.

## CONCLUSION

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record, the Board concludes Petitioner's request warrants partial relief. The Board reviewed the application under the guidance provided in references (b) and (c).

The Board noted Petitioner was discharged based solely due to a homosexual admission and found no aggravating factors in her record. Therefore, the Board found Petitioner merits full relief under reference (c).

However, the Board determined it was unable to grant Petitioner's request for her voluntary statement to be removed from her Official Military Personnel File. While the Board carefully considered the evidence Petitioner provided regarding the circumstances surrounding the making of the statement, the Board noted Petitioner initiated the investigation into her sexual orientation by requesting a discharge to her chain of command based on her homosexual tendencies, made the statement in question, and then relied upon the statement in support of her administrative separation. Therefore, absent substantial evidence to the contrary, the Board determined the presumption of regularity applies to her statement.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Petitioner be issued a new Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214), for the period ending 17 December 1985, reflecting that her narrative reason for separation

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was "Secretarial Authority," the SPD code assigned was "JFF," the separation authority was "MILPERSMAN 1910-164," and the reentry code was "RE-1J."

That no further changes be made to Petitioner's record.

That a copy of this report of proceedings be filed in Petitioner's naval record.

4. It is certified that a quorum was present at the Board's review and deliberations, and that the foregoing is a true and complete record of the Board's proceedings in the above entitled matter.

5. 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 Regulation, Section 723.6(e)) and having assured compliance with its provisions, it is hereby announced that the foregoing corrective action, taken under the authority of reference (a), has been approved by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.



