

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

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

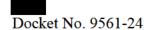
> Docket No. 9561-24 Ref: Signature Date

Dear

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 29 April 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 naval record and applicable statutes, regulations, and policies. In addition, the Board considered the advisory opinion by Navy Recruiting Command letter 1133 Ser N35 of 6 December 2024 and your response to the opinion.

You requested Enlisted Bonus for Physical Fitness Assessment (EBPFA) be added to your Annex in order to receive back-pay for the incentive. The Board, in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, to include your assertions. The Board concluded that in accordance with Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Instruction 1160.9, an enlistment bonus (EB) will be used to encourage initial enlistments in critical ratings, skills, or programs characterized by difficulty in attracting adequate accessions to meet accession objectives set by CNO (N13). The amount of EB and eligible ratings, skills, and programs are normally announced by naval message. The enlistment bonus message in effect on the date the enlistee enters the Navy Delayed Entry Program (DEP) or, if reclassified at the Recruit Training Center, the date the member is reclassified determines the amount of the enlistment bonus that may be awarded. Additionally, Commander, Navy Recruiting Command (COMNAVCRUITCOM) message 181630Z April 2017 outlined the ratings/programs eligible for enlistment bonuses and applied to future Sailors initially classified or reclassified on or after 1 May 2017; this message did not offer the EBPFA incentive. COMNAVCRUITCOM message 292128Z June 2018 applied to future Sailors initially classified or reclassified on or after 1 July 2018.



A review of your records reflect that you enlisted in the Naval Reserve on 25 August 2017 for 8-years of which 4-years was an active duty obligation, you signed NAVCRUIT 1133/52, Enlistment Guarantees – Annex "A" that listed Religious Program Specialist (RP/SG) Class "A" School Guarantee with no other incentives promised, and you entered the Navy DEP. On 11 September 2017, you reclassified and signed Annex "B" that listed Nuclear Field (NF 6YO) Program, and Enlistment Bonus for Source Rate (EBSR) - \$16,000 Bonus. On 13 August 2018, you signed NAVCRUIT 1133/102, Enlistment Bonus Statement of Understanding that indicated your entitlement to a \$16,000 EBSR and you entered active duty on 14 August 2018.

The Board could not find, nor did you provide evidence of being erroneously promised the EBPFA, that was not available at the time of your enlistment. Moreover, the Board determined there was no way for your recruiter to know when EBPFA was going to be offered. Therefore, in this connection, the Board substantially concurred with the comments contained in the advisory opinion and determined that a change to your record is not warranted.

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.

