

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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

> Docket No. 9951-24 Ref: Signature Date

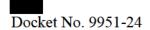
Dear ,

This letter is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to Title 10, United States Code, Section 1552. After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board for Correction of Naval Records (Board) found the evidence submitted was 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 22 October 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 application, together with all material submitted in support thereof, relevant portions of your naval record, and applicable statutes, regulations, and policies.

The Board carefully considered your request to reinstate your promotion to the rank of Master Gunnery Sergeant (MGySgt/E-9) as well as your request for the issuance of a Combat Navy Achievement Medal. The Board considered your assertion that you were forced to retire early due to military injuries. The Board also considered your claim that you were promoted to MGySgt prior to your injury and that you should have been allowed keep the rank. Additionally, the Board considered your claim that you red of obligated service was January of 2009. Finally, the Board considered your claim that you received a Combat Navy Achievement Medal during Operation Desert Storm while assigned to

However, after careful consideration of the evidence and your personal statement, the Board determined there was insufficient evidence supporting your claim that you were promoted to the rank of MGySgt. In this regard, the Board noted you were promoted to the rank of Master Sergeant (MSgt/E-8) on 1 March 2003. Then, on 3 November 2005, the Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 Sergeant Major through MSgt Promotion Selection Board (PSB) adjourned, during which the Board determined you were in the below zone and not selected for promotion to MGySgt. Next, the Board noted that you were transferred to the Fleet Marine Corps Reserves (FMCR) on 31



March 2006, after more than 23 years of service. Finally, the Board noted, the FY 2007 Sergeant Major through MSgt PSB convened on 17 October 2006, however because you had already transferred to the FMCR, you were no longer eligible for promotion consideration.

Regarding your request for the issuance of a Combat Navy Achievement Medal, the Board determined you have not yet exhausted your administrative remedies. In this regard, the Board noted you are required to first submit a Standard Form (SF) 180 Form to Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps (HQMC) (MMPB-3, Military Awards Section), via their organizational mailbox at hqmcMMMA.awards.veteranrequests@usmc.mil.

Moreover, the Board relies on a presumption of regularity to support the official actions of public officers and, in the absence of substantial evidence to the contrary, will presume that they have properly discharged their official duties. The Board found your evidence insufficient to overcome this presumption. Thus, the Board concluded that there is no probable material error, substantive inaccuracy, or injustice warranting corrective action. 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.

