

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

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

> Docket No. 10005-24 Ref: Signature Date

From: To:	Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records Secretary of the Navy
Subj:	REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD ICO USMC
Ref:	(a) Title 10 U.S.C. § 1552 (b) Title 38 U.S. Code § 3319 (c) MARADMIN 704/13, 31 Dec 13
Encl:	<ul><li>(1) DD Form 149 w/attachments</li><li>(2) Subject's Naval record</li></ul>

- 1. Pursuant to the provisions of reference (a), Subject, hereinafter referred to as Petitioner, filed enclosure (1) with the Board for Correction of Naval Records (Board), requesting that his naval record be corrected to establish eligibility to transfer Post-9/11 GI Bill education benefits to his eligible dependents.
- 2. The Board, consisting of reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 1 May 2025 and pursuant to its regulations, determined that the corrective action indicated below should be taken on the available evidence of record. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of the enclosures, relevant portions of Petitioner's naval record, and applicable statutes, regulations, and policies.
- 3. Before applying to this Board, Petitioner exhausted all administrative remedies available under existing law and regulations within the Department of the Navy. The Board, having reviewed all the facts of record pertaining to Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice finds as follows:
  - a. On 16 September 1998, Petitioner entered active duty.
- b. On 18 September 1998, Petitioner signed a Montgomery GI Bill Act of 1984 (MGIB) Basic Enrollment form (DD Form 2366) and elected to enroll in the program.
- c. On 22 October 2005, Petitioner reenlisted for 4 years and 1 month with an End of Current Contract (ECC) of 21 November 2009.
  - d. On 6 November 2007, Petitioner's first dependent child was born

- e. On 22 November 2008, Petitioner reenlisted for 5 years with an ECC of 21 November 2013.
- f. Reference (b) authority to transfer unused education benefits to family members. Eligible Individuals. "An individual referred to in subsection (a) is any member of the Armed Forces who, at the time of the approval of the individual's request to transfer entitlement to educational assistance under this section, has completed at least—(1) six years of service in the armed forces and enters into an agreement to serve at least four more years as a member of the Armed Forces; or (2) the years of service as determined in regulations pursuant to section (k)."
  - g. On 26 December 2012, Petitioner's second dependent child was born
  - h. On 27 March 2013, Petitioner reenlisted for 4 years with an ECC of 26 March 2017.
- i. Reference (c) consolidated and collectively canceled MARADMIN 389/09, MARADMIN 421/09, MARADMIN 428/11 and provided updated guidance regarding the transfer of post 9-11 GI bill educational benefits. Information contained in ref (a) concerning the post 9-11 GI bill itself, eligibility, and benefits has been incorporated into MCO 1560.25.

Under the post 9-11 GI bill, which became effective on 1 August 2009, Marines may use the educational benefit themselves and/or may be permitted to transfer all, or a portion of, their unused entitlement to such educational assistance to one or more of their eligible dependents in return for agreeing to an additional service commitment in the armed forces (active duty and/or selected reserve). TEB is not an entitlement and may not be authorized for any purpose other than promoting recruiting and retention.

Procedures for requesting to transfer educational benefits: A. Active Component Enlisted Marines: (1) Marine verifies dependent information reported in DEERS. (2) Marine speaks with their unit career planner about eligibility criteria for transfer, additional obligated service requirements, re-enlistment and enlistment extension options, and forms required for TEB approval. (3) Marine elects to transfer unused educational benefits through the DMDC TEB web application, concurrent with a submission of a reenlistment/extension (if additional obligated service is required) request to Commandant of the Marine Corps (MMEA-6) as prescribed in MCO 1040.31 (Enlisted Retention and Career Development Program). Career Planner specifies that the request is submitted, "For purposes of establishing required obligated service for eligibility to transfer unused educational benefits under the Post 9-11 GI Bill." (4) Marine, in coordination with his or her command, completes the Statement of Understanding (SOU) and submits it to Commandant of the Marine Corps (MMSB) for inclusion in the Marine's Official Military Personnel File.

Approval of TEB requests should not be assumed. Marines must periodically check the DMDC TEB web application to view the status of TEB requests. (1) If approved, an auto-generated approval letter, which shall be maintained by the member, will appear within DMDC TEB web

application. (2) If rejected (i.e., disapproved), Marines should determine the reason for the rejection by referring to the rejection codes provided and take appropriate, corrective action and reapply, if desired.

- j. On 13 March 2014, Petitioner submitted TEB application and requested to allocate education benefits. The Service rejected the application on 19 June 2014 indicating, "Disapproved SM [Service Member] has not committed to the required additional service time."
- k. On 23 February 2015, Petitioner submitted TEB application and requested to allocate education benefits. The Service rejected the application on 4 May 2015 indicating, "Disapproved SM [Service Member] has not committed to the required additional service time."
  - 1. On 2 September 2016, Petitioner reenlisted for 4 years with an ECC of 1 September 2020.
- m. On 18 December 2018, Petitioner signed an agreement to extend enlistment for 10 months with an End of Active Service (EAS) of 1 July 2021 in order to obligate service to full fill PCSO to MCC V63.
  - n. On 10 January 2020, Petitioner reenlisted for 3 years with an ECC of 9 January 2023.
- o. On 22 February 2021, Petitioner signed an agreement to extend enlistment for 18 months with an EAS of 9 July 2024 in order to obligate service to execute PCSO to MCC 110.
- p. On 4 October 2022, Petitioner reenlisted for 3 years with an ECC of 3 October 2025 and EAS of 3 April 2027.
  - q. On 12 January 2023, Petitioner got married
- r. On 11 April 2024, Petitioner submitted TEB application and requested to allocate education benefits. The Service approved the application on 11 April 2024 indicating an obligation end date of 10 April 2028.
- s. Petitioner's request for transferred to the Fleet Marine Corps Reserve was approved with an effective date of 30 September 2025.

## **CONCLUSION**

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record, the Board finds the existence of an injustice warranting the following corrective action. The Board concluded that Petitioner met the basic eligibility criteria to transfer Post-9/11 GI Bill education benefits but failed to complete the administrative requirements outlined in reference (c). Although Petitioner did not complete the appropriate administrative requirements, the Board concluded that had he received adequate counseling, he would have been able to transfer unused education benefits to eligible dependents upon reenlisting on 27 March 2013. Moreover, the Board determined Petitioner has completed

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over 12 years of active duty service since reenlisting on 27 March 2013, thereby meeting the spirit and intent of reference (b). Therefore, the Board determined under this circumstance, relief is warranted.

## RECOMMENDATION

That Petitioner's naval record be corrected, where appropriate, to show that:

Petitioner elected to transfer unused education benefits to through the MilConnect TEB portal on 27 March 2013. Note: Petitioner allocated education benefits to Lynn Exlos/1-month after marriage on 12 January 2023.

Headquarters United States Marine Corps (HQMC) reviewed Petitioner's TEB application, and it was approved on 27 March 2013 with a 4-year service obligation. Note: HQMC will ensure Petitioner's Benefits for Education Administrative Services Tool Family Member History is updated with the aforementioned approved allocation of education benefits.

A copy of this report of proceedings will 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 titled 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 Regulations, 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 the reference, has been approved by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.

