

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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

> Docket No. 10649-24 Ref: Signature date

From: Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records

To: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF USN,

XXX-XX-

Ref: (a) Title 10 U.S.C. §1552

(b) USECDEF Memo of 25 Jul 18 (Wilkie Memo)

Encl: (1) DD Form 149

(2) Case Summary

- 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 his record be corrected to change his characterization of service from entry level separation to Honorable.
- 2. The Board, consisting of _____, ____, and _____, reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 12 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, applicable statutes, regulations, and policies, to include reference (b).
- 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. Although Petitioner's 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 the case on its merits.
- b. Petitioner enlisted in the Navy and began a period of active duty on 14 August 1984. On 28 August 1984, a medical officer diagnosed the Petitioner with Adjustment Disorder with Anxious Mood/Paranoid Personality disorder and recommended administrative separation. On 5 September 1984, Petitioner was notified of the initiation of administrative separation proceedings by reason of convenience of the government due to personality disorder. Petitioner waived his rights and did not object to his discharge.
- c. Petitioner's commanding officer recommended an entry level separation (ELS) by reason of convenience of the government due to other physical/mental conditions-personality disorder.

The separation authority directed Petitioner's discharge and on 14 September 1984, he was so discharged.

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d. Petitioner contends that his bootcamp experience caused him to have anxiety, and when he was discharged, he was told to that he had a general discharge and there was a possibility that it could be upgraded to honorable once he got out.

CONCLUSION

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record, the Board concludes Petitioner's request warrants partial relief.

In keeping with the letter and spirit of current guidance, the Board determined that it would be an injustice to label one's discharge as being for a diagnosed medical condition. Describing Petitioner's service in this manner attaches a considerable negative and unnecessary stigma, and fundamental fairness and medical privacy concerns dictate a change. Accordingly, the Board concluded that Petitioner's discharge should not be labeled as being for a health-related condition and that certain remedial administrative changes are warranted to the DD Form 214.

Notwithstanding the recommended corrective action below, the Board determined Petitioner's uncharacterized ELS remains appropriate. Applicable regulations direct the assignment of an uncharacterized ELS when a service member is processed for separation within their first 180 days of active duty. While there are exceptions to policy in cases involving misconduct or extraordinary performance, the Board determined neither applied in Petitioner's case. Therefore, even considering the Wilkie Memo and reviewing the record holistically, the Board did not find evidence of an error or injustice that warrants granting Petitioner the relief he requested or granting the requested relief as a matter of clemency or equity.

Finally, the Board also concluded that Petitioner's assigned reentry code remains appropriate in light of the circumstances of his discharge and his unsuitability for military service.

RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the above, the Board directs the following corrective action:

That Petitioner be issued a new Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214), for the period ending 14 September 1984, indicating that Petitioner's narrative reason for separation was "Secretary Plenary Authority," the SPD code assigned was "JFF," and the separation authority was "MILPERSMAN 3630900."

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.

