



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

█
Docket No. 11045-24
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) SECNAVINST 1650.1H

Encl: (1) DD Form 149 with attachments
(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 the addition of the Vietnam Service Medal (VSM) to his Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214). Enclosure (2) applies.

2. The Board consisting of █, █, and █, reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 3 March 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 service records, and applicable statutes, regulations, and policies.

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 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.

c. Petitioner enlisted in the Navy and began a period of active duty on 23 January 1969.

d. From 14 November 1969 to 26 July 1970, he was assigned to the █
█.

e. On 7 April 1971, Petitioner was Honorably discharged from active duty.

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f. On 6 September 2024, Navy Personnel Command PERS-312 completed a review of Petitioner's records and determined that he was not entitled to the VSM.

g. Petitioner contends that: (1) his VSM is missing from his DD Form 214, and he needs it for insurance eligibility, and (2) it is also difficult proving his exposure to agent orange without it.

h. Petitioner provided a personal statement, Navy Personnel Command correspondence, his DD Form 214, and official military personnel file documents.

CONCLUSION:

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

Specifically, the Board identified an error in PERS-312's assessment of the Petitioner's request, noting that his service record confirms he met the established criteria for the awarding of the Vietnam Service Medal (VSM).

In accordance with reference (b), the VSM is awarded to personnel who served in the designated area of operations during the qualifying period. The Petitioner's record documents his presence in [REDACTED], from 14 November 1969 to 26 July 1970, thereby satisfying the eligibility requirements.

RECOMMENDATION:

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

That Petitioner be issued a Correction to DD Form 214, Certificate of Release from Active Duty (DD Form 215) adding the Vietnam Service Medal with three bronze campaign stars.

No further changes be made to Petitioner's record.

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 Regulations, Section 723.6(e)), and having assured compliance with its provisions, it is hereby announced that the foregoing

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corrective action, taken under the authority of reference (a), has been approved by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.

3/18/2025

[REDACTED]

Executive Director

Signed by: [REDACTED]