

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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

> Docket No. 12208-24 Ref: Signature Date

Dear Petitioner:

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.

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 application on its merits. A three-member panel of the Board, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 19 March 2025. The names and votes of the panel members 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 the 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, to include the 25 July 2018 guidance from the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness regarding equity, injustice, or clemency determinations (Wilkie Memo).

The Board determined that your personal appearance, with or without counsel, would not materially add to their understanding of the issues involved. Therefore, the Board determined that a personal appearance was not necessary and considered your case based on the evidence of record.

You enlisted in the United States Navy and began a period of active duty on 30 July 1999. On 27 March 2002, you received non-judicial punishment (NJP) for false official statement and forgery. On 1 July 2003, you received NJP for larceny and false official statement. Consequently, you were notified that you were being recommended for administrative discharge from the Navy by reason of misconduct due to commission of a serious offense. You waived your right to consult with counsel and present your case to an administrative discharge board. The commanding officer (CO) forwarded your administrative separation package to the separation authority recommending your administrative discharge from the Navy. In his

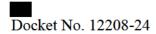
recommendation, the CO commented, "[Petitioner] has no place in the Navy. She cannot be trusted and her conduct is not in keeping with Navy Core Values. It is in the best interest of all concerned to discharge [Petitioner] as soon as possible." The separation authority accepted the recommendation and you were discharged with a General (Under Honorable Conditions) (GEN) characterization of service on 29 July 2003.

The Board carefully considered all potentially mitigating factors to determine whether the interests of justice warrant relief in your case in accordance with the Wilkie Memo. These included, but were not limited to, your desire to upgrade your discharge character of service and contentions that: (1) you apply every year or every other year requesting to have your character of service changed to Honorable, (2) people make mistakes in life but shouldn't have to pay for a mistake their entire life, (3) you have two degrees and are currently in nursing school, (4) you give back to your community when you can by mentoring girls from 10-16 years old, and (5) you just want to be treated fairly. For purposes of clemency and equity consideration, the Board considered the documentation you provided in support of your application.

After thorough review, the Board concluded your potentially mitigating factors were insufficient to warrant relief. Specifically, the Board determined that your misconduct, as evidenced by your NJPs, outweighed these mitigating factors. In making this finding, the Board considered the seriousness of your misconduct and concluded your misconduct showed a complete disregard for military authority and regulations. The Board observed you were given multiple opportunities to correct your conduct deficiencies but chose to continue to commit misconduct; which led to your GEN discharge. Your conduct not only showed a pattern of misconduct but was sufficiently pervasive and serious to negatively affect the good order and discipline of your command. Based on your history of committing misconduct that involved a lack of integrity, the Board agreed with your CO's assessment that you could not be trusted to continue serving in the Navy. The Board found the assignment of a GEN characterization of service to be extremely generous considering the nature of your repeated misconduct and found no evidence that you were punished unjustly or treated unfairly.

As a result, the Board determined that there was no impropriety or inequity in your discharge and concluded that your misconduct and disregard for good order and discipline clearly merited your discharge. While the Board carefully considered the evidence you submitted in mitigation and commends you on your efforts to improve your life, even in light of the Wilkie Memo and reviewing the record holistically, the Board did not find evidence of an error or injustice that warrants granting you the relief you requested or granting relief as a matter of clemency or equity. Ultimately, the Board concluded the mitigation evidence you provided was insufficient to outweigh the seriousness of your misconduct. Accordingly, given the totality of the circumstances, the Board determined 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.

