



Docket No. 12278-24  
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 case on its merits. A three-member panel of the Board, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 5 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, applicable statutes, regulations, and policies.

You enlisted in the Navy Reserve on 30 April 1996 and served until your discharge 10 October 2010.

Post discharge, you requested a review of your record to determine your eligibility for the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal (MOVSM). On 19 July 2024, Navy Personnel Command (NPC) denied your request based on a determination that they do not have the authority to issue personal awards such as the MOVSM. The denial was due to NPC not issuing citations or certificates because they are generated at the command level and approved through the chain of command.

The Board carefully considered all potentially mitigating factors to determine whether the interests of justice warrant relief in your case. These included, but were not limited to, your desire for the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal (MOVSM) to be awarded and contention that: (1) you provided letters from the scout leader of your local scout pack in hopes you would receive recognition through the awarding of the medal, (2) the scout leader's letter was sent to the wrong address and another letter was sent to your prior commanding officer, (3)

documentation was provided in support of the awarding of the medal, (4) as of this date you still have not been awarded the medal, (5) your volunteerism extends many years prior and (6) you were never made aware of the appeals process through the Board of Correction of Naval Records until recently.

As part of the Board review process, the BCNR considered the letter from NPC. The letter stated in pertinent part:

Authority to award the MOVSM is delegated to officers who have authority to award the Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal (N/MCAM) or Joint Service Achievement Medal (JSAM) and above. The awarding authority shall issue a letter of authorization which includes the period recognized and the organization(s) for whom the qualifying service was performed. This letter, along with the personal award recommendation form OPNAV 1650/3, will be forwarded to Navy Personnel Command, PERS-312, for entry into the official record. PERS-312 does not have authority to issue personal awards such as the MOVSM. We do not issue citations or certificates either. They are generated at the command level and approved through the chain of command (COC). We wish a more favorable outcome were provided.

After thorough review, the Board concluded these potentially mitigating factors were insufficient to warrant relief. Specifically, the Board concurred with NPC that the MOVSM is an award that is approved at the command level through your chain of command. In reviewing your evidence, the determined that insufficient evidence exists that you were approved for the award. Accordingly, given the totality of the circumstances, the Board determined that your request does not merit relief.

The Board thanks you for your faithful and selfless service to this country.

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.

Sincerely,

3/28/2025

