

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

> Docket No. 12295-24 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.

A three-member panel of the Board, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 11 February 2025. The names and votes of the members of the panel 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 this 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, as well as the 8 October 2024 decision furnished by the Marine Corps Performance Evaluation Review Board (PERB) and 31 July 2024 advisory opinion (AO) provided to the PERB by the Manpower Management Division Records and Performance Branch. The AO was provided to you on 8 October 2024, and you were given 30 days in which to submit a response. Although you were afforded an opportunity to submit a rebuttal, you chose not to do so.

The Board carefully considered your request to remove the fitness report for the reporting period 5 December 2018 to 30 June 2019. The Board considered your contention that the Section I and K comments contain ambiguities and innuendoes. You also contend the terms "adequate," "as required," and "as needed" carry negative undertones and are adverse in nature. Additionally, the fitness report was not marked adverse, and no attribute mark was lower than "C".

The Board, however, substantially concurred with the PERB's decision that you did not meet the burden of proof that a substantive inaccuracy or injustice exists to warrant the removal of your fitness report. The Board determined that your fitness report is valid as modified and filed in accordance with the applicable Marine Corps Performance Evaluation System (PES) Manual. In this regard, the Board noted that the PERB approved a correction to your record by removing the Section I statement: "with some oversight and general guidance." The Board found that the PERS approves the Section I comments, and the Reviewing Officer comments comply with the PES

Manual and are not adverse in nature. The Board thus concluded there is no probable material error, substantive inaccuracy, or injustice warranting corrective action. Accordingly, given the totality of the circumstances, the Board determined that 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.

3/6/2025

Sincerely,