

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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

> Docket No. 788-25 Ref: Signature Date

From: Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records

To: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF FORMER

, USN,

Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C. § 1552

(b) USECDEF Memo of 25 July 2018 (Wilkie Memo)

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 that her naval record be corrected to upgrade her reentry code on her DD Form 214.
- 2. The Board, consisting of ______, _____, and ______, reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 31 January 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.
- b. Although enclosure (1) was not filed in a timely manner, it is in the interests of justice to review the application on its merits.
- c. Based on Petitioner's history of asthma, on 22 March 2001, the Medical Advisor for Navy Recruiting Command determined Petitioner did not meet established physical standards but recommended a waiver of the physical standards in order for Petitioner to enlist. Subsequently, the Petitioner enlisted in the U.S. Navy and began a period of active service on
 - d. 22 March 2001.

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- e. While at Recruit Training Command (RTC), on both 24 and 25 April 2001, Petitioner was treated for her asthma at the Asthma Screening Clinic following her complaints of a shortness of breath and chest pain. Petitioner was diagnosed with Asthma and which a pulmonary function test confirmed the diagnosis. On 26 April 2001 a Navy Medical Officer (NMO) determined that Petitioner's pre-existing asthma was not correctable to meet Navy standards. The NMO did not recommend retention of the Petitioner for her pre-existing condition.
- f. On 14 January 1997 the Petitioner's command initiated administrative separation proceedings by reason of defective enlistment and induction due to an erroneous enlistment as evidenced by a preservice medical condition (asthma). The Petitioner waived her rights to consult with counsel, submit statements to the Separation Authority, obtain copies of the documents supporting the basis for the proposed separation, and to GCMCA review of the separation.
- g. On 2 May 2001 the RTC Commanding Office authorized and directed Petitioner's entry level separation (ELS) for an erroneous enlistment with an RE-4 reentry code. Ultimately, on 7 May 2001 Petitioner was discharged from the Navy for an erroneous enlistment with an uncharacterized ELS and was assigned an RE-4 reentry code.
- h. However, in lieu of certain entries on Petitioner's DD Form 214 consistent with an erroneous entry discharge, the narrative reason for separation of "Failed Medical/Physical Procurement Standards," as well as a corresponding "JFW" separation code, both appeared on Petitioner's DD Form 214.

CONCLUSION:

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

The Board carefully considered all potentially mitigating factors to determine whether the interests of justice warrant relief in accordance with the Wilkie Memo. For purposes of clemency and equity consideration, the Board considered the entirety of the evidence Petitioner provided in support of her application.

The Board initially determined that Petitioner's medical diagnosis and separation recommendation was clinically and medically appropriate. The Board determined there was no evidence in the record to suggest that Petitioner's active duty diagnosis was erroneous or unjust given her preexisting medical condition rendering her not physically qualified for further service. Based on Petitioner's precise factual situation and circumstances at the time of her discharge, the Board concluded that Petitioner's command was justified in assigning her an ELS. The Board noted that separations initiated within the first 180 days of continuous active duty will be described as ELS except in those limited cases involving unusual circumstances not applicable in Petitioner's case, or where processing under a more serious basis is appropriate and where characterization of service under other than honorable conditions upon discharge is warranted.

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The Board determined that Petitioner's separation for an erroneous enlistment was legally and factually sufficient, however, the Board concluded she was assigned the incorrect separation code and narrative reason for separation. The Board determined that such entries should instead conform specifically to a discharge for an erroneous enlistment. The Board also concluded the reentry code should change to "RE-3E."

The Board noted that the RE-3E reentry code directly corresponds to "inducted, enlisted, extended, or reenlisted in error," and was the appropriate and permitted designation given the totality of the circumstances in Petitioner's case. The Board also noted that, despite having an RE-3E reentry code, Petitioner could still submit a request for an enlistment waiver during the processing of a formal application for reenlistment through a recruiter, and the Board further noted that recruiting personnel are responsible for determining whether Petitioner meets the standards for reenlistment and whether or not a request for a waiver of the reentry code is feasible.

RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the foregoing, the Board finds the existence of a material error warranting the following corrective action.

Petitioner shall be issued a new DD Form 214 indicating her narrative reason for separation is "Erroneous Entry - Other," the separation code is "JFC," and the reentry code is "RE-3E."

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 Regulations, 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.

