

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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

> Docket No. 1281-25 Ref: Signature Date

Dear _____

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 2 July 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 17 January 2025 decision by the Marine Corps Performance Evaluation Review Board (PERB) and the 20 November 2024 Advisory Opinion (AO) provided to the PERB by the Headquarters Marine Corps Performance Evaluation Section (MMPB-23). Although you were afforded an opportunity to submit a rebuttal, you did not do so.

The Board carefully considered your request to remove the annual (AN) fitness report for the reporting period 1 August 2023 to 30 September 2023 because the report does not meet the minimum requirements to justify an exemption to policy. Specifically, you note the Reporting Senior (RS) had only observed you for 61 days and only 89 days after establishing a RS/Marine Reported On relationship with you. Additionally, you contend the RS did not explain "how the circumstances created an increase in quantity and quality of observation." Further, you contend the "altered assessment impacts [your] ability to gain selection to the next rank" and removing the report "allows for a more accurate evaluation" by a promotion board.

The Board, however, determined the AN fitness report was valid as written and filed, in accordance with the applicable Performance Evaluation System Manual guidance. The Board, substantially concurring with the AO, noted the RS's comments "clearly acknowledged the shortened observation period while providing a well-founded rationale for invoking the exception to policy." Further, the Board noted the RS's section I comments offered a "thorough

and detailed account of [your] performance, presenting a comprehensive view of [your] professional character, accomplishments, and activities that the RS found noteworthy" – comments that were "favorable, fully informed, and provide[d] a balanced and complete assessment of [your] performance." Based on the available evidence, the Board concluded there is insufficient evidence of an error or injustice warranting your requested 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.

