



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

[REDACTED]
Docket No. 1546-25
Ref: Signature Date

From: Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records
To: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD ICO [REDACTED], USNR,
XXX-XX-[REDACTED]

Ref: (a) Title 10 U.S.C. § 1552
(b) Title 38 U.S.C. Chp 33
(c) MILPERSMAN 1780-011

Encl: (1) DD Form 149
(2) Subject's naval record

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 establish eligibility to transfer Post-911 GI Bill education benefits to her eligible dependents.

2. The Board, consisting of [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 10 July 2025 and pursuant to its regulations, determined that the corrective action indicated below should be taken on the available evidence of record. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of the enclosures, relevant portions of Petitioner's naval record, and applicable statutes, regulations, and policies.

3. The Board, having reviewed all the facts of record pertaining to Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice, found that, before applying to this Board, she exhausted all administrative remedies available under existing law and regulations within the Department of the Navy. The Board made the following findings:

a. The Post-911 Veterans Educational Assistance Act (Post-911 GI Bill, Public Law 110-252) was signed into law on 30 June 2008 and became effective 1 August 2009. The bill provides financial support for education and housing for service members with at least 90 days of service on or after 11 September 2001. The act also includes provision for qualifying service members to transfer education benefits to their eligible dependents. General descriptions of the essential components of the law were widely available beginning in summer 2008, but specific implementing guidance was not published until summer 2009.

b. In accordance with reference (c), the option to transfer a Service member's unused education benefits to an eligible dependent requires a 4-year additional service obligation at the time of election. Enlisted personnel are required to have sufficient time on contract to meet the additional service requirement prior to initiating their electronic transfer election, but no more

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than 30 calendar days following execution of a 4-year reenlistment. Additionally, all Sailors are required to complete the online, self-service Statement of Understanding (SOU) before submitting a transfer of education benefits (TEB) application. The policy directs members to submit TEB applications into the MilConnect TEB portal and periodically check the status of their application; a denied TEB application requires members to take corrective action and reapply with a new service obligation end date.

c. On 27 January 2015, Petitioner enlisted in the Naval Reserve for 8 years and entered active duty on 4 March 2015 to complete initial active duty for training.

d. On 2 May 2015, Petitioner married [REDACTED].

e. On 30 December 2015, Petitioner was released from active duty and transferred to the Navy Reserve. On 31 December 2015, Petitioner was assigned to [REDACTED] unit in a Selected Reserve status.

f. Petitioner mobilized in support of [REDACTED] from 12 March 2021 to 25 June 2022.

g. On 27 January 2023, Petitioner's 24-month extension becomes operative; end of obligated service 26 January 2025.

h. On 22 July 2023, Petitioner's child [REDACTED] was born.

i. On 20 October 2024, Petitioner submitted TEB application with less than 4 years remaining on contract. The Service rejected the application on 21 October 2024, indicating, "Disapproved – SM [Service Member] has not committed to the required additional service time."

j. On 7 December 2024, Petitioner reenlisted for 4 years.

k. Petitioner submitted TEB applications on 2 January 2025 and 23 January 2025. The Service rejected the applications on 10 January 2025 and 23 February 2025 respectively indicating, "Disapproved – SM has not committed to the required additional service time." There is no record of Petitioner completing the required SOU prior to submitting the TEB applications and 23 January 2025 fell outside the 30-day window to submit TEB application after reenlisting for 4 years.

CONCLUSION

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record, the Board finds the existence of an injustice warranting the following corrective action. Petitioner met the basic eligibility criteria to transfer Post-9/11 GI Bill education benefits on 2 January 2025 but failed to complete the required SOU in accordance with reference (c) prior to submitting her TEB application. Although Petitioner did not complete the appropriate administrative requirements, the Board concluded that had she received adequate counseling, she would have been able to transfer

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unused education benefits to eligible dependents on 2 January 2025. Therefore, the Board agreed, under these circumstances, relief is warranted.

RECOMMENDATION

That Petitioner's naval record be corrected, where appropriate, to show that:

Petitioner, in coordination with her command completed the required SOU on 2 January 2025 and submitted it to Commander, Navy Personnel Command for inclusion in the Petitioner's Official Military Personnel File.

Petitioner elected to transfer unused education benefits to [REDACTED]/1-month and [REDACTED]/35 months through the MilConnect TEB portal on 2 January 2025.

Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command (N1) reviewed Petitioner's TEB application, and it was approved on 2 January 2025 with a 4-year service obligation.

A copy of this report of proceedings will 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 titled 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 the reference, has been approved by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.

7/30/2025

