



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

Docket No. 1658-25

Ref: Signature date

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

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF FORMER MEMBER [REDACTED]  
XXX XX [REDACTED] USMC

Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C. §1552  
(b) SECDEF Memo of 3 Sep 14 (Hagel Memo)  
(c) PDUSD Memo of 24 Feb 16 (Carson Memo)  
(d) USD Memo of 25 Aug 17 (Kurta Memo)  
(e) USECDEF Memo of 25 Jul 18 (Wilkie Memo)

Encl: (1) DD Form 149 with attachments  
(2) Case summary

1. Pursuant to the provisions of reference (a), Petitioner filed enclosure (1) with the Board for Correction of Naval Records (Board), requesting a change of his narrative reason for separation.

2. The Board, consisting of [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED], reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 7 July 2025 and, pursuant to its regulations, determined 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 his naval service records, and applicable statutes, regulations, policies to included references (b) through (e).

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, the statute of limitation was waived in accordance with the Kurta Memo.

c. Petitioner enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and began a period of active service on 7 July 1964.

d. On 18 February 1965, a report of a medical board survey diagnosed Petitioner with an emotionally unstable personality that existed prior to enlistment and was not aggravated by

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service. Petitioner was notified of proposed disposition of his case and elected not to submit a statement in rebuttal. He was subsequently recommended for discharge.

e. Ultimately, the separation authority directed Petitioner's separation and, on 21 March 1965, he was discharged with an Honorable characterization of service due to a physical disability without severance pay.

f. Petitioner requested a change of his narrative reason of separation to reflect Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). He contends he was discharged in error as he never had a physical disability.

g. For purposes of clemency and equity consideration, the Board considered the totality of Petitioner's application; which consisted of his DD Form 149, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) documents, medical documents, and his DD Form 214.

#### CONCLUSION:

Upon review and consideration of the evidence of record, the Board determined Petitioner's request warrants partial relief.

Regarding Petitioner's request that his narrative reason for separation be changed to reflect PTSD, the Board concluded such PTSD is not an authorized reason for separation on a DD Form 214 under applicable regulations<sup>1</sup>. Further, the Board determined that doing so would not accurately represent the basis for his discharge; as Petitioner was not separated due to PTSD but for a diagnosed personality disorder.

However, the Board found that Petitioner's diagnosed personality disorder is not considered a physical disability condition as annotated on his DD Form 214. Therefore, the Board determined his reason for separation on his DD Form 214 is erroneous and requires correction<sup>2</sup>. Accordingly, given the totality of the circumstances, the Board concluded that Petitioner's narrative reason for separation, separation authority, and separation code should be changed to reflect a Secretarial Authority discharge.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the above, the Board directs the following corrective action be taken:

That Petitioner be issued a new Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214) reflecting that, for the period ending 21 March 1965, Petitioner's was discharged with a narrative reason for separation of "Convenience of the Government (Other good and sufficient reason as determined by the Commandant of the Marine Corps or the Secretary of the Navy),"

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<sup>1</sup> The Board noted that if Petitioner was discharged after being found unfit for continued naval service as a result of a PTSD diagnosis, his assigned reason for separation would actually be correct.

<sup>2</sup> Current regulations would require Petitioner be separated with a "Condition, Not a disability" reason for separation based on his diagnosed personality disorder. However, the Board determined it was in the interests of justice to assign a Secretarial Authority discharge to avoid any potential stigma to Petitioner.

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separation code of "21L," and separation authority of "Marine Corps Manual, Paragraph 10271.1g."

That all other information currently listed on Petitioner's DD-214 remain the same.

No further changes be made to Petitioner's naval record.

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 Regulation, 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.

7/21/2025

[REDACTED]

Executive Director

Signed by: [REDACTED]