

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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

> Docket No. 1736-25 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 23 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 decision by the Marine Corps Performance Evaluation Review Board (PERB) and the 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 chose not to do so.

The Board carefully considered your request to modify the fitness report for the reporting period 31 January 2023 to 2 January 2024 by correcting attribute markings in accordance with the Reporting Senior's (RS's) letter which states the markings "were inadvertent and inconsistent with my philosophy for reports covering the performance of sergeants." Specifically, based on the RS's letter, you request the lowering of marks "one letter grade below the letter currently selected" for the following attributes: performance, developing subordinates, setting the example, ensuring the well-being of subordinates, courage, effectiveness under stress, initiative, and judgment. Further, you contend the corrections should be made "in order to reflect an accurate relative value based on RS profile" because the RS intended for you to be the top performer but "letter grades selected were [one] letter grade above the intended selection."

The Board, however, determined the fitness report was valid as written and filed, in accordance with the applicable Performance Evaluation System Manual guidance. The Board noted its policy does not allow correction of a naval record in any manner that would place a petitioner in

a less favorable position. The Board, concurring with the AO, determined the lowering of the requested attribute markings would leave you in a less favorable position. 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.

