



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

[REDACTED]
Docket No. 1783-25
Ref: Signature Date

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to Title 10, United States Code, Section 1552, in which you requested promotion to E-9 and the award you should have received.

Your application was not filed in a timely manner. A three-member panel of the Board, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 28 May 2025. You contend that you were assigned a billet outside of your military occupational specialty (MOS) and were told you would move to a billet in your MOS after one year. However, the commanding officer refused to let you go. You claim you can prove why you should have been promoted. As evidence, you provided correspondence regarding promotion consideration and your personal award submission. In reviewing your application, the Board observed that you did not provide a sufficient basis to excuse your failure to submit your application in a timely manner. The Board thus determined your request for promotion should be denied due to the length of time since you failed selection and retired.

Concerning your request for a personal award, by law and regulations, recommendations for any Department of the Navy personal decoration must be originated and introduced into official channels within 3 years of either the date of the heroic act or the ending date of the meritorious service period. In 1996 Congress amended Title 10 (10 U.S.C. §1130) to require the Secretary of the Navy to consider award recommendations made outside these time limits, providing the award was referred to him/her by a Member of Congress. The law does not require the Secretary to waive any other award processing requirement other than the time limit. To maintain the integrity and fairness of the military awards system, specific procedures have been developed within the Department of the Navy for submission, processing, and approval of award recommendations that are outside the time limits established in law or regulations. Specific guidance for submitting your award can be found in Appendix 8A of the Navy and Marine Corps Awards Manual (SECNAV M-1650.1). Accordingly, you must exhaust your administrative remedies, by submitting your request for the Meritorious Service Medal to a member of Congress. Your member of Congress will then forward the package to the Navy Office of Legislative Affairs for processing.

In the absence of sufficient new evidence for reconsideration, the decision of the Board is final, and your only recourse would be to seek relief, at no cost to the Board, from a court of appropriate jurisdiction.

Sincerely,

6/4/2025
