

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

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

> Docket No. 1818-25 Ref: Signature Date

From: Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records

To: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF FORMER MEMBER

USN, XXX-XX-

Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C. §1552

(b) USECDEF Memo of 25 Jul 18 (Wilkie Memo)

Encl: (1) DD Form 149 with attachments

- (2) Case summary
- (3) Subject's naval record (excerpts)
- 1. Pursuant to the provisions of reference (a), Petitioner, a former member of the Navy, filed enclosure (1) requesting change of his reentry code and evaluation of his post-911 GI Bill benefits.
- 2. The Board, consisting of period and policies, allegations of error and injustice on 21 July 2025 and, pursuant to its regulations, determined that the corrective action indicated below should be taken. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of Petitioner's application together with all material submitted in support thereof, relevant portions of Petitioner's naval record, and applicable statutes, regulations, and policies, to include reference (b).
- 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 the interests of justice.
  - c. Petitioner enlisted in the Navy and began a period of active service on 28 April 2009.
- d. On 3 February 2010, Commander, Navy Medicine issued a letter concerning Petitioner's diagnosis for Personality Disorder and recommended he be expeditiously processed for administrative separation.

- e. On 5 February 2010, Petitioner was counseled regarding his diagnosis, and notified of indented administrative separation processing for Personality Disorder and physical or other mental conditions.
- f. Petitioner was notified of administrative separation processing based on his personality disorder on 5 February 2010. Ultimately, he was honorably discharged on 19 February 2010.
- g. Petitioner contends he was a minor at the time of his enlistment and now hopes to reenlist after college as an officer in the Medical Corps. He also checked the "Other Mental Health" box on his application but provided no evidence in support of his claim. For purposes of clemency and equity consideration, he provided two advocacy letters and his EMT certificate.

## **CONCLUSION**

Upon careful review and consideration of all of the evidence of record, the Board determined that Petitioner's request warrants partial relief. Specifically, in keeping with the letter and spirit of the Wilkie Memo, the Board determined that it would be an injustice to label one's discharge as being for a diagnosed character and behavior and/or adjustment disorder. Describing Petitioner's service in this manner attaches a considerable negative and unnecessary stigma, and fundamental fairness and medical privacy concerns dictate a change. Accordingly, the Board concluded that Petitioner's discharge should not be labeled as being for a mental health-related condition and that certain remedial administrative changes are warranted to the DD Form 214.

Notwithstanding the recommended corrective action below, the Board determined Petitioner's assigned reentry code remains appropriate. The Board carefully considered all potentially mitigating factors to determine whether the interests of justice warrant relief in Petitioner's case in accordance with the Wilkie Memo. These included, but were not limited to, his desire for a change to his reentry code and the contentions discussed above.

After thorough review, the Board concluded these potentially mitigating factors were insufficient to warrant relief. Specifically, the Board determined that Petitioner was appropriately diagnosed with a personality disorder based on his extensive mental health evaluations occurring between 30 December 2009 and 21 January 2010. During this period, Petitioner was evaluated on six separate occasions by a psychiatrist. The medical doctor's impressions was that Petitioner suffered from a personality disorder, NOS, marked with cluster B histrionics and antisocial traits. In addition, the doctor determined Petitioner's disorder might be marked with cluster A schizotypal features with magical and grandiose thinking. Based on this diagnosis, the Board determined Petitioner's mental health condition amounted to more than his youth and was not persuaded that he no longer suffers from the personality disorder; which by definition is a long-standing disorder. While the Board positively considered Petitioner's post-discharge accomplishments, they noted that the military environment is uniquely challenging and not suitable to individuals with diagnosed personality disorders. Therefore, absent substantial evidence to the contrary, the Board concluded that Petitioner remains unsuitable for further military service.

As a result, even in light of the Wilkie Memo and reviewing the record holistically, the Board did not find evidence of an error or injustice that warrants granting Petitioner the relief he requested or granting the requested relief as a matter of clemency or equity.

Finally, the Board took no action on Petitioner's request to evaluate his Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits. The Board noted the GI Bill is a program administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and falls outside the cognizance and statutory authority of this Board. Petitioner is encouraged to contact the VA to determine his eligibility for the program.

In view of the above, the Board directs the following corrective action.

## RECOMMENDATION

That Petitioner be issued a new Certificate of Release from Active Duty (DD Form 214) reflecting that, for the period ending 19 February 2010, he was discharged with a narrative reason for separation of "Secretarial Authority," SPD code of "JFF," and separation authority of "MILPERSMAN 1910-164."

That no further changes be made to Petitioner's record.

That 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.

