

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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

> Docket No. 2511-25 Ref: Signature Date



Dear Petitioner:

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to Title 10, United States Code, Section 1552. 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.

Although your application was not filed in a timely manner, the Board found it in the interest of justice to waive the statute of limitations and consider your application on its merits. A three-member panel of the Board, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 14 July 2025. The names and votes of the panel members 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 the 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, applicable statutes, regulations, and policies, to include the 25 July 2018 guidance from the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness regarding equity, injustice or clemency determinations (Wilkie Memo).

You enlisted in the Navy and began a period of active duty on 23 February 2005. Prior to commence active duty, you received a waiver for use of a controlled substance-marijuana. On 26 April 2007, you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for two instances of unauthorized absence (UA). Subsequently, you were counseled concerning your previous UCMJ violations resulting in NJP. You were advised that failure to take corrective action could result in administrative separation. On 17 November 2009, you received a second NJP for two additional instances of UA. Consequently, you were notified of the initiation of administrative separation proceedings by reason of misconduct due to pattern of misconduct; at which point, you decided to waive your procedural rights. Your commanding officer recommended a General (Under Honorable Conditions) (GEN) discharge characterization of service. The separation authority approved the recommendation and you were so discharged on 11 December 2009.

The Board carefully considered all potentially mitigating factors to determine whether the interests of justice warrant relief in your case in accordance with the Wilkie Memo. These

included, but were not limited to, your desire for a discharge upgrade and contentions that: (a) the core of the Navy in which you served was for each of its Sailors to continually evolve and become the best version of themselves, (b) you managed your current position for two years, were demoted from manager to assistant manager, and have been with the current company for over eight years, (c) you were dedicated to learned your job and were not afforded the resources to do it properly, (d) you returned home to a family in distress, and (e) you have worked four separate jobs since you returned home. You also checked the "PTSD" box on your application but chose not to provide supporting evidence of your claim. For purposes of clemency and equity consideration, the Board considered the totality of your application, which consisted solely of your DD Form 149 without any other additional documentation.

After thorough review, the Board concluded these potentially mitigating factors were insufficient to warrant relief. Specifically, the Board determined that your misconduct, as evidenced by your NJPs, outweighed these mitigating factors. In making this finding, the Board considered the seriousness of your misconduct and found that your conduct showed a complete disregard for military authority and regulations. The Board observed you were given an opportunity to correct your conduct deficiencies but chose to continue to commit misconduct; which led to your GEN discharge. Your conduct not only showed a pattern of misconduct but was sufficiently pervasive and serious to negatively affect the good order and discipline of your command. Further, the Board determined that you already received a large measure of clemency when the Navy agreed to administratively separate you with a GEN discharge characterization despite your extensive record of misconduct over a relatively brief period of service. Finally, the Board noted you provided no evidence, other than your statement, to substantiate your contentions.

As a result, the Board determined that there was no impropriety or inequity in your discharge and concluded that your misconduct and disregard for good order and discipline clearly merited your discharge. 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 you the relief you requested or granting relief as a matter of clemency or equity. 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 the 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.

