



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

[REDACTED]
Docket No. 2621-25
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], USN,
XXX-XX-[REDACTED]

Ref: (a) Title 10 U.S.C. §1552
(b) USECDEF Memo of 25 Jul 18 (Wilkie Memo)

Encl: (1) DD Form 149 w/attachments
(2) Case Summary

1. Pursuant to the provisions of reference (a), Subject, hereinafter referred to as Petitioner, filed enclosure (1) with the Board for Correction of Naval Records (Board) requesting for a change to his narrative reason for separation and reenry code.

2. The Board, consisting of [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED], reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 1 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, 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. Although Petitioner's 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 the case on its merits.

b. Petitioner enlisted in the Navy and began a period of active duty on 17 August 2001.

c. On 25 October 2001, Petitioner reported to Naval Nuclear Power Training Command, [REDACTED] for temporary duty under instruction.

d. On 27 September 2002, Petitioner reported to Naval Nuclear Power Training Unit, [REDACTED] for temporary duty under instruction.

e. On 6 February 2003, Petitioner received non-judicial punishment (NJP) for failure to obey lawful order issued by a superior noncommissioned officer and failure to obey a lawful written

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF FORMER MEMBER [REDACTED], USN, XXX-XX [REDACTED]

order. Additionally, Petitioner received an administrative remarks (Page 13) retention warning counseling him concerning deficiencies in his performance and conduct. The Page 13 expressly advised Petitioner that any further deficiencies in his performance and/or conduct may result in disciplinary action and in processing for administrative separation.

f. On 16 April 2003, Petitioner reported to [REDACTED] for duty.

g. On 1 January 2004, Petitioner was screened as a medical referral and met the diagnostic criteria for alcohol dependence. He was recommended to attend Level III residential treatment.

h. On 8 January 2004, Petitioner received his second NJP for a period of unauthorized absence totaling 59 days. Petitioner was again issued a Page 13 retention warning counseling concerning deficiencies in his performance and conduct and advised Petitioner that any further deficiencies in his performance and/or conduct may result in disciplinary action and in processing for administrative separation.

i. On 26 March 2004, Petitioner completed Level III residential treatment.

j. On 28 December 2005, Petitioner was referred to the Substance Abuse Rehabilitation Program (SARP) counselor for a reevaluation due to a relapse. Petitioner was directed to abstain from alcohol use, attend AA meetings at least five times per week, obtain an AA sponsor, and attend a weekly continuing care group.

k. On 28 January 2006, Petitioner received his third NJP for UA and disobedience of a superior noncommissioned officer.

l. On 9 March 2006, an intervention was held due to Petitioner's non-compliance with his aftercare plan.

m. On 6 May 2006, Petitioner received a Page 13 counseling concerning the following deficiencies in his behavior: Failure to participate in a formal aftercare program on a regular basis as a result of his relapse. Petitioner was informed that he was required to follow the corrective actions provided as part of his aftercare treatment and advised that failure to comply with the requirements will be cause for immediate processing for separation.

n. After failing to complete his aftercare requirements and following an alcohol related incident, Petitioner was notified that he was being recommended for administrative discharge from the Navy by reason of misconduct due to pattern of misconduct, commission of a serious offense, and alcohol abuse rehabilitation failure on 22 February 2007. Petitioner was advised of and waived his procedural right to consult with military counsel but elected his right to submit a written statement for consideration by the separation authority and general courts-martial convening authority review.

o. Petitioner's commanding officer recommended to the separation authority (SA) that Petitioner be administratively discharged from the Navy with a General (Under Honorable Conditions) characterization of service.

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF FORMER MEMBER [REDACTED], USN,
XXX-XX [REDACTED]

p. The SA directed Petitioner's administrative discharge from the Navy by reason of alcohol rehabilitation failure with an Honorable characterization of service and he was so discharged on 19 April 2007.

q. Petitioner contends the following injustices warranting relief:

(1) He served honorably for six years, earning both an award and a flag letter of commendation for his service aboard the [REDACTED]

(2) He voluntarily sought alcohol rehabilitation treatment when he realized his drinking was out of control, and he completed the program successfully. However, sadly he slipped while on leave which led to his administrative separation.

(3) Since leaving the Navy, he has achieved rehabilitation success, gave up alcohol entirely, and he has built up an impressive engineering career, including disaster relief work for FEMA.

CONCLUSION

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

The Board found no error with Petitioner's administrative separation for alcohol rehabilitation failure. However, after careful consideration of the policy established in reference (b), reviewing the record holistically, given the totality of the circumstances, and purely as a matter of clemency, the Board determined that describing Petitioner's current narrative reason for separation in this manner attaches a considerable negative and unnecessary stigma. Therefore, the Board concluded Petitioner's narrative reason for separation and separation code should be changed to reflect a Secretarial Authority discharge.

Notwithstanding the recommended corrective action below, the Board determined Petitioner's assigned reentry code remains appropriate in light of his record of alcohol abuse, rehabilitation failure, and misconduct. The Board concluded these factors reasonably make him unsuitable for further military service. While the Board carefully considered the evidence Petitioner submitted in mitigation and commends him for his rehabilitation, the Board determined insufficient evidence of error or injustice exists to merit a change to his reentry code. Ultimately, the Board concluded that any injustice in Petitioner's record is adequately addressed by the recommended corrective action.

RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the above, the Board recommends that the following corrective action be taken on Petitioner's naval record in the interests of justice:

That Petitioner be issued a new Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214) indicating that, for the period ending on 19 April 2007, Petitioner was discharged with a

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF FORMER MEMBER [REDACTED], USN,
XXX-XX-[REDACTED]

narrative reason for separation of "Secretarial Authority," SPD code of "JFF," and separation authority of "MILPERSMAN 1910-164."

That no further correction action be taken on Petitioner's naval record.

That a copy of this record of proceedings be filed in Petitioner's naval record.

4. It is certified that 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 Regulations, 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.

7/14/2025

