



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

■
Docket No. 2820-25
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

1. Pursuant to the provisions of reference (a), Petitioner filed enclosure (1) with the Board for Correction of Naval Records (Board), requesting his discharge characterization be upgraded and that his record be amended to reflect sleepwalking as the reason for discharge.

2. The Board, consisting of ■■■■■■■■■■, ■■■■■■■■■■, and ■■■■■■■■■■, reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 7 July 2025 and, pursuant to its regulations, determined the corrective action indicated below should be taken on the available evidence of record. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of the enclosures, relevant portions of his naval service records, and applicable statutes, regulations, policies to included references (a) and (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, it is in the interest of justice to review the application on its merits.

c. During Petitioner's enlistment processing he answered "no" when asked whether he had a history of sleepwalking.

d. Petitioner enlisted in the Navy and began a period of active service on 26 January 1988.

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e. On 20 April 1988, Petitioner was referred for a medical evaluation after several incidents of sleep walking. Petitioner disclosed sleepwalking on one occasion at age 12, was diagnosed with a sleepwalking disorder, and recommended for discharge.

f. Ultimately, the separation authority directed Petitioner's separation and, on 27 June 1988, he was discharged with an uncharacterized entry level separation (ELS)¹, "Other Physical/Mental Conditions – Sleepwalking," narrative reason for separation, "JFV," separation code, "MILPERSMAN 3620200," separation authority, and "RE-4," reentry code.

g. Post-discharge, Petitioner applied to this Board for a discharge upgrade and was denied on 31 January 1996. Prior to applying to this Board, Petitioner also petitioned the Naval Discharge Review Board for a discharge upgrade. The NDRB denied his request after determining his discharge was proper as issued.

h. Petitioner is requesting an upgrade of his discharge characterization to Honorable. He contends that: (1) he served in the Navy for five months in 1987 and was separated due a sleepwalking condition that was beyond his control, (2) despite this, he demonstrated a strong commitment and good conduct during his period of service, (3) an upgrade would more appropriately reflect the dedication and integrity he demonstrated during his enlistment, and (4) he seeks access to any applicable veterans' benefits to which he may be entitled.

i. For purposes of clemency and equity consideration, the Board considered the totality of Petitioner's application; which consisted of his DD Form 215, DD Form 214, and a 1988 medical record/consultation sheet.

CONCLUSION:

Upon review and consideration of the evidence of record, the Board determined Petitioner's request warrants partial relief. Specifically, in order to ensure Petitioner is not unnecessarily required to disclose private medical information when providing proof of military service, the Board determined his narrative reason for separation, separation authority, separation code, and reentry code should be changed to reflect a Secretarial Authority discharge².

Notwithstanding the recommended corrective action below, the Board found no error or inequity in Petitioner's assigned ELS discharge. 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 discharge upgrade and the previously discussed contentions.

¹ Service regulations direct the assignment of an uncharacterized ELS when a service member is processed for separation within their first 180 days of active duty.

² The Board noted that Petitioner's reason for separation already reflected that he was discharged for sleepwalking. His original DD Form 214 annotated "Personality Disorder" as part of his reason for separation but was corrected through the issuance of a DD Form 215 on 4 September 1990. Notwithstanding the fact Petitioner's reason for separation actually reflects what he requested, i.e. that he was discharged for sleepwalking, the Board still determined it was in the interests of justice to make this change to address the medical privacy issues.

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After thorough review, the Board concluded that the potentially mitigating factors presented were insufficient to warrant relief. The Board determined that Petitioner was processed for separation within the first 180 days of active duty and correctly assigned an uncharacterized ELS. While there are exceptions to the policy in cases involving misconduct or extraordinary performance, the Board determined neither applied in Petitioner's case. Therefore, 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.

RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the above, the Board directs the following corrective action be taken:

That Petitioner be issued a new Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214) reflecting that, for the period ending 27 June 1988, Petitioner's was discharged with a narrative reason for separation of "Secretary Plenary Authority," separation code of "JFF," and separation authority of "MILPERSMAN 3630900," and reentry code of "RE-1J."

No further changes be made to Petitioner's naval record.

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.

7/21/2025

