

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

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

> Docket No. 3114-25 Ref: Signature Date

## Dear Petitioner:

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to Section 1552 of Title 10, United States Code. 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 7 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, and 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 Marine Corps Reserve and commenced initial active duty for training (IADT) on 2 March 1963. As part of your enlistment processing, you signed a statement of understanding requiring you to attend forty-eight scheduled drills and no less than fourteen days of active duty for training (ADT) per year after completing IADT. You completed IADT on 1 September 1963 and received a Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214) for time served on active duty. You then transferred to

as a drilling reservist. On 17 July 1965, you were found not physically qualified for retention in the Marine Corps Reserves. Consequently, on 8 October 1965, you were notified of pending administrative separation processing due to the Bureau of Medicine finding you not physically qualified by reason of chondromalacia left patella, symptomatic. You were advised of your right to request discharge, transfer to retired reserve, or a Physical Evaluation Board (PEB) and that failure to respond within thirty days would result in your discharge. You did not respond and were issued an Honorable Discharge Certificate on 9 November 1965.

The Board carefully considered all potentially mitigating factors to determine whether the interests of justice warrant relief in your case. These included, but were not limited to, your contentions that your DD Form 214 is incorrect and should have a date of separation to match your Honorable Discharge Certificate of 9 November 1965.

After thorough review, the Board concluded your potentially mitigating factors were insufficient to warrant relief. The Board noted that the DD Form 214 is used to document a servicemember's active-duty service and is prepared for inactive Reservists upon release from a period of active duty for training of ninety-days or more. Applicable policies also required issuance of a discharge certificate for members discharged from inactive duty; which is the 9 November 1965 Honorable Discharge Certificate you received. In reviewing your record, the Board was unable to find any evidence that you served a qualifying period of active duty between your IADT discharge and your discharge from the inactive duty. Therefore, 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 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.

