



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

█
Docket No. 3459-25
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), Subject, hereinafter referred to as Petitioner, filed enclosure (1) with the Board for Correction of Naval Records (Board), requesting that his discharge be upgraded.

2. The Board consisting of █, █, and █, reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 4 August 2025 and, pursuant to its regulations, determined that 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, and policies including 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 limitations was waived in the interests of justice.

c. Petitioner enlisted in the Navy and began a period of active duty on 8 December 1992.

d. On 11 March 1993, while assigned to Navy Recruit Training Command, Petitioner received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for violating a lawful general regulation and for drunken or reckless driving. Following this, administrative remarks were issued documenting the infractions, affirming his retention in the naval service, and formally advising him that any further violations of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ), or misconduct resulting in

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civilian conviction, could result in administrative separation under Other Than Honorable (OTH) conditions.

e. On 19 May 1993, Petitioner reported for duty aboard ██████████.¹

f. On 22 September 1994, Petitioner received nonjudicial punishment for a 13-day period of unauthorized absence.

g. On 30 November 1994, Petitioner was notified of his pending administrative separation by reason of commission of a serious offense. He was advised of his procedural rights and waived his rights to consult with counsel and to present his case to an administrative discharge board.

h. Petitioner's commanding officer (CO) forwarded the administrative separation package to the separation authority recommending that Petitioner be administrative discharged from the Navy with a General (Under Honorable Conditions) (GEN) characterization of service. In his comments, the CO stated that the primary reason for Petitioner's administrative separation processing was his enuresis condition but service regulations direct commands process service members for all known bases. The CO further states that, despite Petitioner's previous misconduct at RTC, extenuating circumstances warrant assigning Petitioner a GEN characterization of service.

i. On 15 December 1994, the separation authority directed Petitioner's administrative separation from the Navy with a GEN characterization of service. Petitioner was discharged on the same date. Upon his discharge, he was issued a Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214) that annotated his characterization of service as under Other than Honorable (OTH) conditions.

j. Petitioner contends the following injustices warrant relief:

(1) During his time of service, he sought medical attention on multiple occasions for health concerns but no physical issues were identified.

(2) He completed two Mediterranean deployments, participated in a crossing-the-line/Equator ceremony, and recalls both meaningful friendships and proud experiences during service.

(3) He believed he would be medically discharged and was unaware at the time that he had received an OTH characterization of service. Had he known, he would have chosen to complete the remaining two years of his enlistment.

(4) He describes his discharge as a source of deep regret and personal embarrassment.

¹ On 6 September 1994, Petitioner was diagnosed with enuresis.

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(5) He further recalls during his discharge processing, the individual reviewing his paperwork commented that “something was wrong with him” and expressed hope that he would eventually find clarity.

(6) Since his discharge, he reports significant personal growth. He became a committed Christian in 1997, has been married since 2001, and is a father and grandfather. He currently operates a small real estate appraisal business and tries to do right in every situation.

(7) He acknowledges that his military service was marked by poor decisions and expresses a sincere desire to make amends.

(8) He described the emotional impact of his discharge as a lasting source of anguish, which he characterizes as a “mental prison.”

(9) He notes that although he does not have formal medical documentation of his mental distress and does not regularly seek medical care—largely due to a negative experience with a Navy physician—he checked the mental health block of his application to this Board due to the mental anguish this has caused him throughout the years.

k. For purposes of clemency and equity consideration, the Board noted Petitioner provided his Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214) and an email/personal statement.²

CONCLUSION:

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record, the Board concludes that Petitioner’s request warrants relief. Specifically, with regard to Petitioner’s request that his discharge be upgraded, the Board noted Petitioner’s misconduct and does not condone his actions. However, based on the separation authority message that approved a GEN characterization of service in Petitioner’s case, the Board determined he was erroneously assigned an OTH characterization of service. Therefore, the Board concluded Petitioner’s discharge characterization requires correction to “General (Under Honorable Conditions).” Additionally, the Board further determined it was in the best interest of justice to change Petitioner’s narrative reason for separation, separation authority, separation code, and reentry code to reflect a Secretarial Authority discharge based on the CO’s statement that the primary reason for Petitioner’s administrative processing was due to his enuresis condition.

Notwithstanding the recommended corrective action below, the Board was not willing to grant an upgrade to an Honorable discharge. The Board determined that an Honorable discharge was appropriate only if the member’s service was otherwise so meritorious that any other characterization of service would be clearly inappropriate. The Board concluded by opining that certain negative aspects of the Petitioner’s conduct and/or performance outweighed the positive

² Although Petitioner selected the “Other Mental Health” (OMH) box on his application, in response to the Board’s request for additional medical evidence supporting his claims, he submitted an email in which he acknowledged that he does not possess any medical documentation reflecting an existing mental health condition.

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aspects of his military record, even under the liberal consideration standards, and that a GEN discharge characterization and no higher was appropriate. Ultimately, the Board determined that any injustice in Petitioner's record is adequately addressed by the recommended corrective action.

RECOMMENDATION:

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

Petitioner be issued a new Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214) reflecting that, for the period ending 15 December 1994, Petitioner's was discharged with a "General (Under Honorable Conditions)" characterization of service, narrative reason for separation of "Secretarial Authority," SPD code of "JFF," separation authority of "MILPERSMAN 3630900," and reentry code of "RE-1J."

No further changes be made to Petitioner's 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 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.

8/11/2025

