



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

[REDACTED]
Docket No. 4438-25
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]
[REDACTED], USN, XXX-XX-[REDACTED]

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 his characterization of service be upgraded.
2. The Board, consisting of [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 9 September 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, and policies.
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 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.
 - c. Petitioner enlisted in the U.S. Navy and began a period of active duty on 5 June 1990.
 - d. On 10 December 1991, Petitioner was seen by a mental health provider, diagnosed with occupational problems, alcohol abuse, personality disorder, NOS with passive aggressive and self-defeating features, superficial laceration left wrist, and recommended for separation.
 - e. On 13 December 1991, Petitioner received non-judicial punishment (NJP) for wrongful use of controlled substance and wrongful possession of marijuana onboard a naval vessel.

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f. Unfortunately, documents pertinent to Petitioner's administrative separation are not in his official military personnel file (OMPF). Notwithstanding, the Board relies on a presumption of regularity to support the official actions of public officers and, in the absence of substantial evidence to the contrary, will presume that they have properly discharged their official duties. Petitioner's Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214), reveals that he was separated from the Navy, on 29 January 1992, with a General (Under Honorable Conditions) (GEN) characterization of service, narrative reason for separation of "Other, Physical, Mental Conditions – Personality Disorder," separation code of "JFX," and reentry code of "RE-4."

g. Petitioner contends at the time of discharge there was no further exploration and explanation of what type or cause of personality disorder or any attempted treatment for his mental conditions. Petitioner further contended that for the majority of his adult life he believed himself to be mentally ill or crazy but it wasn't until he was diagnosed with depression that he realized that he wasn't crazy. He was just undiagnosed and untreated for severe depression for years.

h. The Board noted the Petitioner checked the "Other Mental Health," box on his application but chose not to respond to the Board's request for supporting evidence of his claims.

CONCLUSION:

Upon careful review and consideration of all of the evidence of record, the Board determined that Petitioner's request warrants partial relief. In keeping with the letter and spirit of references (b), the Board determined that it would be an injustice to label one's discharge as being for a diagnosed personality disorder. Describing Petitioner's service in this manner attaches a considerable negative and unnecessary stigma, and fundamental fairness and medical privacy concerns dictate a change. Accordingly, the Board concluded that Petitioner's discharge should not be labeled as being for a mental health-related condition and that certain remedial administrative changes are warranted to the DD Form 214.

Notwithstanding the below recommended corrective action, the Board concluded insufficient evidence exists to support Petitioner's request for an upgrade in characterization of service. The Board carefully considered all potentially mitigating factors to determine whether the interests of justice warrant relief in Petitioner's case in accordance with reference (b). These included, but were not limited to, Petitioner's desire for a discharge upgrade and his previously discussed contentions. For purposes of clemency and equity consideration, the Board considered the totality of the Petitioner's application; which consisted solely of his petition without any other additional documentation.

After thorough review, the Board concluded these potentially mitigating factors were insufficient to warrant relief. In making this finding, the Board considered the seriousness of his misconduct and the fact it included a drug offense. The Board determined that illegal drug use by a service member is contrary to military core values and policy, renders such members unfit for duty, and poses an unnecessary risk to the safety of their fellow service members. Additionally, despite

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the fact Petitioner was discharged primarily for his diagnosed personality disorder, the Board determined his drug related misconduct supports his assigned GEN characterization of service. 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 aspects of his military record and that a GEN discharge characterization and no higher was appropriate.

Finally, the Board also determined Petitioner's assigned reentry code remains appropriate in light of his record of misconduct and unsuitability for further military service.

Therefore, even in light of reference (b) 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 relief as a matter of clemency or equity.

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

RECOMMENDATION:

Petitioner be issued a new Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214), for the period ending 29 January 1992, reflecting that he was discharged with a narrative reason for separation of "Secretarial Authority," SPD code of "JFF," and separation authority of "MILPERSMAN 1910-164."

That no further changes be made to Petitioner's record.

That 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 the reference, has been approved by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.

9/22/2025

[REDACTED]