



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS
701 S. COURTHOUSE RD
ARLINGTON, VA 22204

█
Docket No. 4960-25
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
(3) Subject's naval record (excerpts)

1. Pursuant to the provisions of reference (a), Petitioner, a former member of the Navy, filed enclosure (1) requesting a separate Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214) or Correction of DD Form 214 (DD Form 215) for his first enlistment and to have his participation in Operations Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom, and Unified Assistance added to his DD Form 214. Enclosures (1) through (3) apply.

2. The Board, consisting of █, █, and █, reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 15 December 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, and 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.

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. Petitioner enlisted in the Navy after receiving a waiver for pre-service marijuana use and a civilian marijuana possession offense and began a period of active service on 23 January 2002¹.

¹ While Petitioner commenced active duty on 23 January 2002, his active duty start date on his DD Form 214 appears to have been adjusted to 14 February 2002 to account for his Time Lost.

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d. After a period of continuous Honorable service, Petitioner immediately reenlisted and commenced a second period of active duty on 10 March 2006. During the remainder of the year, Petitioner was involved in multiple incidents of misconduct, including drug abuse, that resulted in his administrative separation processing.

e. Unfortunately, the documents pertinent to Petitioner's administrative separation are not in his official military personnel file (OMPF). Notwithstanding, the Board relied on a presumption of regularity to support the official actions of public officers and, in the absence of substantial evidence to the contrary, presumed that they properly discharged their official duties. Based on the information contained on Petitioner's DD Form 214, he was separated, on 12 January 2007, with an "Under Other Than Honorable Conditions (OTH)" characterization of service, narrative reason for separation of "Misconduct (Drug Abuse)," reentry code of "RE-4," and separation code of "HKK;" which corresponds to misconduct - drug abuse, admin discharge board required but waived. Upon his discharge, he was issued a DD Form 214 that did not annotate his period of continuous Honorable service from 14 February 2002 to 9 March 2006.

f. Post-discharge, Petitioner applied to the Naval Discharge Review Board (NDRB) for a discharge upgrade. The NDRB denied his request for an upgrade, on 13 February 2013, based on their determination that his discharge was proper as issued. However, the NDRB noted the missing period of continuous Honorable service and directed an administrative correction to Petitioner's DD Form 214. The Board found no evidence in Petitioner's record to indicate the change was made as directed.

g. Petitioner contends he served honorably from 23 January 2002 to 23 March 2006. He also contends that he has received disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) due to his Honorable service in the Navy during that time. Petitioner submitted a VA Decision Letter indicating he was granted a service connection for Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and polysubstance use disorder.

CONCLUSION

Upon careful review and consideration of all of the evidence of record, the Board determined that Petitioner's request warrants partial relief. Specifically, as previously discussed, Petitioner's DD Form 214 does not annotate his period of continuous Honorable service and requires correction. Further, the Board noted that his DD Form 214 does not annotate his Global War on Terrorism Service Medal (GWOTSM) listed on Petitioner's NAVPERS 1070/604 (Awards). However, the Board lacked sufficient evidence to determine whether Petitioner is entitled to the additional awards he requested. As a result, the Board determined that Petitioner's record shall be reviewed and applicable corrections made to Blocks 13 and 18 of Petitioner's DD Form 214.

Notwithstanding the recommended corrective action, the Board determined Petitioner's request for a separate DD Form 214 was not appropriate based on the governing regulations. Therefore, the Board denied this aspect of his application.

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RECOMMENDATION

That Petitioner be issued a Correction to DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 215), for the period ending 12 January 2007, correcting:

Block 13, "Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations, and Campaign Ribbons Awarded," to indicate "GWOTSM;" and

Block 18, "Remarks," to indicate "CONTINUOUS HONORABLE ACTIVE SERVICE FROM 020214 UNTIL 060309."

That Navy Personnel Command conduct a review of Petitioner's record to determine whether Petitioner's DD Form 214 is missing any operations or other awards. Navy Personnel Command is authorized to add any additional operations or awards to the DD Form 215, as appropriate.

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 reference (a), has been approved by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.

1/16/2026

