



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

██████████  
██████████ No. 6057-25  
Ref: Signature Date

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██████████████████

Dear Petitioner:

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to Title 10, United States Code, Section 1552. 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 1 December 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, 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 with a waiver and began a period of active duty on 25 July 1973. Prior to your enlistment, you admitted preservice conviction for joyriding. Around 13 May 1974, you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for sleeping while on post. On 3 June 1974, you began a period of unauthorized absence (UA) which lasted 35 days and resulted in your conviction by special court martial (SPCM) on 26 August 1974. You were sentenced to reduction to E-1. Subsequently, you were diagnosed with drug dependency and granted rehabilitation.

Unfortunately, documents pertinent to your administrative separation are not in your 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. Your Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214) reveals that you were separated from the Marine Corps, on 13 December 1974, with a General (Under Honorable Conditions) (GEN)

characterization of service, authority and reason of “MARCORSEPMAN 384,” and reentry code of “RE-4.” Your separation reason is consistent with an unfitness discharge.

The Board carefully considered all potentially mitigating factors to determine whether the interests of justice warrant relief in your case in accordance with the Wilkie Memo. These included, but were not limited to your desire for a discharge characterization upgrade and contentions that: (a) you did not use drugs until you joined the military, used them with other Marines, and while under pressure, and (b) you were stationed at Camp Lejeune and became worried about toxins in the water and further medical complications. You also checked the “Other Mental Health” box on your application but chose not to respond to the Board’s request for supporting evidence of your claim. For purposes of clemency and equity consideration, the Board considered the totality of your application; which consisted solely of your DD Form 149 without any additional documentation.

After thorough review, the Board concluded these potentially mitigating factors were insufficient to warrant relief. Specifically, the Board determined that your misconduct, as evidenced by your NJP and SPCM, outweighed these mitigating factors. In making this finding, the Board considered the seriousness of your misconduct and found that your conduct showed a complete disregard for military authority and regulations. The Board observed you were given an opportunity to correct your conduct deficiencies but chose to continue to commit misconduct; which led to your GEN discharge. Your conduct not only showed a pattern of misconduct but was sufficiently pervasive and serious to negatively affect the good order and discipline of your command. Additionally, while the Board considered your contention that you did not abuse drugs until after you entered the Marine Corps, they noted that your misconduct involved a 35-day period of UA and sleeping on post. Further, the Board determined that you already received a large measure of clemency when the convening authority agreed to administratively separate you with a GEN discharge characterization despite your record of misconduct over a relatively brief period of service. Lastly, the Board noted you provided no evidence, other than your statement, to substantiate your contentions.

As a result, the Board determined that there was no impropriety or inequity in your discharge and concluded that your misconduct and disregard for good order and discipline clearly merited your discharge. 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 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.

Regarding your assertion concerning exposure to contaminated water at Camp Lejeune, Public Law 112-154, Honoring America’s Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012, requires the Veterans Administration to provide health care to Veterans with one or more of 15 specified illnesses or conditions. You should contact the nearest office of the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) concerning your right to apply for benefits or appeal an earlier unfavorable determination.

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.

Sincerely,

1/6/2026

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Executive Director

Signed by: █