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

[redacted]
Docket No. 6072-25
Ref: Signature Date

[redacted]

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.

A three-member panel of the Board, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 29 July 2025. The names and votes of the members of the panel 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 this 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.

The Board carefully considered your request to remove "all adverse documentation or negative indicators" in your official military personnel file (OMPF) that are "solely associated with [your] religious exemption request and vaccine status." Additionally, you requested "[i]nitiation of a thorough review of the command board proceedings" that considered you for selection as the Commanding Officer (CO) of [redacted] Lastly, the Board considered your request to amend your record "to restore opportunities for advancement and leadership selection that may have been improperly denied." You contend the continued enforcement of NAVADMIN 190/21 and NAVADMIN 225/21, at the time of the command board, "created a policy environment where unvaccinated officers – regardless of merit or performance – were presumptively excluded from command consideration." Additionally, you contend the 7 May 2025 Department of Defense (DoD) memorandum established the COVID-19 vaccine mandate was "unlawful as implemented" and "[a]dverse actions linked solely to a refusal to vaccinate or the filing of a religious accommodation request must be removed." Further, you contend the DoD guidance delineated that military review boards "must consider the impact of the unlawful policies on promotion, selection, and command board outcomes." In your statement, you further contend that, while you were not removed from your position, you "firmly believe the continued enforcement of this policy unlawfully excluded [you] from fair

consideration during a command selection board" and your "unvaccinated status, administrative counseling, and pending exemption appeal likely rendered [your] candidacy nonviable under the policy environment at the time." Lastly, you contend the denial of a command opportunity has "placed [your] career trajectory at significant risk and, in effect, prematurely ended upward progression as a Navy Reserve officer."

The Board, in its review of your record, noted your OMPF does not contain any adverse documentation or negative indicators associated with your religious exemption and/or vaccine status. Therefore, no action is required.

Further, the Board noted it is not an investigative body nor does it have authority to initiate a "thorough review of the command board proceedings." Additionally, after review of the available record, the Board noted there is no evidence to support your assertions that your vaccination status, administrative counseling, and/or religious accommodation request impacted your candidacy for selection as [redacted] The Board also considered your request to amend your record to "restore opportunities for advancement and leadership selection that may have been improperly denied." However, the Board noted you did not specify errors in your record impacting your advancement and leadership opportunities nor does your record contain indications of such errors. Based on the available evidence, the Board determined there is insufficient evidence of an error or injustice warranting correction. 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.

Sincerely,

8/11/2025

[redacted]