



Docket No. 7960-25
Ref: Signature Date

From: Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records
To: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF [REDACTED],
USN, [REDACTED]

Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C. §1552
(b) USECDEF Memo of 25 Jul 18 (Wilkie Memo)

Encl: (1) DD Form 149 w/attachments
(2) Naval record (excerpts)

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 to change his narrative reason for separation. Enclosures (1) and (2) apply.
2. The Board, consisting of [REDACTED], reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 6 March 2026 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, 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 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 Navy and began a period of active duty on 30 July 1986. After a period of continuous Honorable service, Petitioner reenlisted on 6 December 1991.
 - d. On 1 December 1993, Petitioner completed Level III rehabilitation treatment and was advised that any further related incidents or failure to satisfactorily complete any aspects of the treatment aftercare program would be grounds for administrative separation as a rehabilitation failure.

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF [REDACTED]
USN, [REDACTED]

e. On 20 January 1995, petitioner was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol, and subsequently received non-judicial punishment (NJP) for having been found drunk while on duty as a standby duty member, subject to recall.

f. Consequently, Petitioner was notified of administrative processing for Misconduct due to Alcohol Rehabilitation Failure and the commission of a serious offense. He consulted with counsel and requested a hearing before an administrative board. The administrative board found Petitioner was an alcohol rehabilitation failure and recommended he be separated with an Honorable characterization of service. The Separation Authority approved the recommendation and Petitioner was so discharged on 2 August 1995.

CONCLUSION:

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record, the Board concludes that Petitioner's record warrants relief.

The Board found no error with Petitioner's administrative separation discharge based on his Alcohol Abuse Rehabilitation Failure. However, in keeping with the letter and spirit of the Wilkie Memo, the Board determined that it would be an injustice to label one's discharge as being related to an alcohol rehabilitation failure. 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 such and that his reason for separation should be changed to reflect a "Secretarial Authority" discharge.¹

RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the above, the Board recommends that the following corrective action be taken on Petitioner's naval record in the interests of justice:

That Petitioner be issued a new Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214) reflecting that, for the period ending 2 August 1995, he was discharged with a narrative reason for separation of "Secretarial Authority," SPD code of "JFF," and separation authority of "MILPERSMAN 3630900." All other information on the DD Form 214 shall remain the same.

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

That a copy of this record of proceedings be filed in Petitioner's naval record.

4. It is certified that 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

¹ The Board also determined Petitioner's reentry code remains appropriate but noted he specifically requested a change only to his reason for separation.

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF [REDACTED]
USN, [REDACTED]

corrective action, taken under the authority of reference (a), has been approved by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.

3/25/2026

