



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

██████████
Docket No. 8024-25
Ref: Signature Date

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Dear ██████████

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 12 August 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, and 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) and Executive Order (EO) 14184, and Reinstating Service Members Discharged Under the Military's COVID-19 Vaccination Mandate, 27 January 2025.

On 3 June 2014, you enlisted in the U.S Navy for a period of eight years, with a four-year active-duty obligation. You began your period of active duty on 14 July 2015. On 13 June 2021, you were discharged with an honorable characterization of service at the completion of required active service. In August 2024, you enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard where you are currently serving on active-duty.

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 and EO 14184. These included, but were not limited to, any benefits available under EO 14184. You contend that you were forced to discharge solely for refusing the COVID-19 vaccine and you declined a \$45,000 reenlistment bonus because of the manner in which the Department of Defense (DoD) was handling the COVID-19 pandemic to include mandating the vaccine. Lastly, you contend you were voluntarily discharged in June of 2021. For purposes of clemency and

equity consideration, the Board considered the personal statement you provided in support of your application.

After thorough review, the Board concluded these potentially mitigating factors were insufficient to warrant relief. Specifically, the Board determined that the Secretary of Defense did not mandate all service members receive a COVID-19 vaccine until 24 August 2021, which was two months after your voluntary discharge. Therefore, the Board concluded that you are ineligible for any benefits associated with EO 14184 as you were discharged at the completion of your obligated service and not as the result of the COVID-19 vaccine refusal. Even in light of the Wilkie Memo and EO 1418, 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.

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,

10/16/2025

