



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

[REDACTED]
Docket No. 8057-25
Ref: Signature Date

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

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF [REDACTED],
USN, XXX-XX-[REDACTED]

Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C. § 1552
(b) USECDEF Memo of 25 July 2018 (Wilkie Memo)

Encl: (1) DD Form 149 with attachments
(2) Case summary

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 that his naval record be corrected to change his reason for separation and reentry code on his Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214).

2. The Board, consisting of [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED], reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 15 August 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 interests of justice to review the application on its merits.

c. The Petitioner originally enlisted in the U.S. Navy and began a period of active service on 23 July 2004. Petitioner's pre-enlistment physical examination, on 15 May 2003, and self-reported medical history both noted no psychiatric or neurologic conditions, history, or symptoms.

d. On or about 3 November 2004, Petitioner underwent a psychiatric evaluation. The Navy Medical Officer (MO) diagnosed Petitioner with an adjustment disorder with mixed anxiety and

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depressive mood, and a narcissistic personality disorder. The MO determined that Petitioner's conditions were sufficiently severe to impair significantly his ability to function effectively in the military environment, as demonstrated by the following problem behaviors: (a) increasing symptoms of anxiety and depression, (b) recent panic attack during fire training resulting in termination of training, (c) poor appetite with weight loss, (d) longstanding sense of entitlement and exaggerated sense of self-importance, (e) history of anger-dyscontrol, (f) recurrent physical fights (some with weapons), and (f) poor frustration tolerance. The MO also stated that: (a) the disorders were not considered amenable to effective treatment in the military setting, (b) if retained, there was an increased risk of harm to self/others and a detraction from unit morale and readiness, and (c) Petitioner had no unfitting disability that was incurred in, or aggravated by, active military service, either for the current period or any prior period of service. The MO recommended Petitioner's administrative separation.

e. Following Petitioner's personality disorder diagnosis, on 18 November 2004, Petitioner's command initiated administrative separation proceedings by reason of convenience of the government due to his diagnosed personality disorder. Petitioner waived in writing his rights to consult with counsel, submit written statements, and to General Court-Martial Convening Authority review of the proposed discharge.

f. On 24 November 2004, the Separation Authority (SA) approved and directed Petitioner's separation from the Navy with an uncharacterized an entry level separation (ELS). Ultimately, on 2 December 2004, Petitioner was so discharged and assigned an RE-4 reentry code. However, as noted on Petitioner's DD Form 214, blocks 25, 26, and 28 (separation authority, separation code, and narrative reason for separation, respectively), corresponded with an ELS discharge for a personality disorder.

g. Petitioner contended, in part, that his reentry code and separation narrative were unjustly and unfairly warranted due to him having no prior issues before or during his enlistment process. He argued that the decisions he made on active duty did not warrant the type of separation he received. He proffered that post-service he obtained a college degree, was in pursuit of post-graduate degrees as well, and was a contributor within his community and a dedicated father and spouse. He contended that granting a change to his reentry code would allow him the opportunity to show his children that serving your country can come at any point in your life and that earlier poor decisions can be corrected. In support of his application, Petitioner submitted an August 2025 letter from his primary care physician stating that Petitioner was in excellent physical and mental capacity and has no signs or symptoms of mental disorder or physical incapacity and advocacy letters.

CONCLUSION:

Upon careful review and consideration of all of the evidence of record, the Board determined that Petitioner's request warrants partial relief. Specifically, 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 for a diagnosed character and behavior disorder. Describing Petitioner's service in this manner attaches a considerable negative and unnecessary stigma, and fundamental fairness and

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medical privacy concerns dictate a change. Accordingly, the Board concluded that Petitioner's discharge should not be labeled as being for a mental health-related condition and that certain remedial administrative changes are warranted to the DD Form 214.

However, notwithstanding the recommended corrective action below, the Board concluded that Petitioner's request does not warrant any additional relief. The Board carefully considered all potentially mitigating factors to determine whether the interests of justice warrant relief in Petitioner's case in accordance with the Wilkie Memo. These included, but were not limited to, his desire for a change to his reason for separation and reentry code, as well as his previously discussed contentions.

After thorough review, the Board concluded that Petitioner's potentially mitigating factors were insufficient to warrant relief. The Board initially determined that Petitioner's administrative separation for a personality disorder was legally and factually sufficient, and in accordance with all Department of the Navy directives and policy at the time of his discharge. The Board noted that personality disorders are characterized by a longstanding pattern of unhealthy behaviors, dysfunctional relationships, and maladaptive thinking patterns. They are not conditions considered unfitting, disabling, or impair one's ability to be accountable for their actions or behaviors, but render service members unsuitable for military service and consideration for administrative separation.

Based on the Board's finding that Petitioner was appropriately discharged for his personality disorder, the Board did not find a material error or injustice with the Petitioner's assigned "RE-4" reentry code. The Board concluded the Petitioner was assigned the correct reentry/reenlistment code based on the totality of his circumstances, and that such notation was proper and in compliance with all Department of the Navy directives and policy at the time of his discharge.

As a result, the Board determined that there was no impropriety or inequity in Petitioner's ELS discharge and reentry code. While the Board carefully considered the evidence Petitioner submitted in mitigation, 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 Petitioner the relief he requested or granting relief as a matter of clemency or equity. Accordingly, given the totality of the circumstances, the Board determined that Petitioner's request does not merit relief.

RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the foregoing, the Board finds the existence of material errors warranting the following corrective action.

That Petitioner be issued a new DD Form 214, for the period ending 2 December 2004, indicating that he was discharged with a narrative reason for separation of "Secretarial Authority," separation authority of "MILPERSMAN 1910-164," and separation code of "JFF."

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

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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 Regulations, 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.

8/18/2025

