



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

Docket No. 9600-25
Ref: Signature Date

Dear [REDACTED]

This is in reference to your application for correction of your father's naval record pursuant to Title 10, United States Code, Section 1552. After careful and conscientious consideration of relevant portions of your father's 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 you did not file your application in a timely manner, the Board waived the statute of limitation in the interest of justice. A three-member panel of the Board, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 1 May 2026. 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 father's naval record, and applicable statutes, regulations, and policies, to include the Navy and Marine Corps Awards Manual (SECNAV M-1650.1). The Board also considered the advisory opinion (AO) of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals (NDBDM).

Your father enlisted in the Marine Corps and served a period of active duty from 19 May 1944 through 1 April 1946. He was honorably discharged with no documented misconduct during his approximately 24 months of active-duty service.

You previously inquired to the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) regarding your father's potential entitlement to award of the Good Conduct Medal (GCM). In a response to you, dated 14 August 2025, NPRC provided you with the criteria for the award and clarified that the NPRC has no authority to revise and approve amendments or corrections to military records.

The Board carefully considered all relevant regulations and policies with respect to your contention that your father should have received award of the GCM, to include all supporting documentation you submitted in regard thereto. Additionally, the Board considered the AO from the NDBDM.

The Board concurred with the AO to the extent that the language in a discharge record specifying commencement of the Good Conduct period does not indicate entitlement to the award but, rather, the start date from which to determine eligibility. Further, eligibility for the GCM award, during the period of service in question, required three years of continuous active service. At the time of your father's separation on 1 April 1946, he had served fewer than three years of active service.

Therefore, after thorough review, the Board determined that there was no error or injustice with respect to your father not being awarded the GCM given that his total active service did not meet the requirements for the medal based on his documented length of service.

Accordingly, the Board determined that your request does not merit relief.

The Board wished to express its gratitude for your father's faithful service and its deepest condolences for your loss. This decision is not meant in any way to diminish your father's Honorable military service during a critical time in this nation's history.

You are entitled to have the Board reconsider its decision upon the 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 is attached 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,

5/28/2026

