



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

█
Docket No. 10535-25
Ref: Signature Date

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

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF FORMER MEMBER █
█ XXX XX █ USMCR

Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C. §1552
(b) 10 U.S.C. 654 (Repeal)
(c) USD Memo of 20 Sep 11 (Correction of Military Records Following Repeal of 10 U.S.C. 654)

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 upgrade her discharge characterization of service consistent with references (b) and (c). Implied in her request, Petitioner also requested a change to her record consistent with the references.

2. The Board, consisting of █, █, and █, reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 20 February 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 references (b) and (c).

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 Marine Corps Reserves and began an initial period of active duty in January 1996. After completing her initial training, Petitioner was honorably released from active duty on 19 April 1996

d. Petitioner commenced another period of active duty on 29 April 1996.

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d. On 9 July 1996, Petitioner made an admission that she was a homosexual and requested to be discharged from the Marine Corps. A Preliminary Investigation was conducted during which Petitioner affirmed her admission. Consequently, Petitioner was notified of administrative processing for misconduct by reason of homosexual conduct. She consulted with counsel and waived her procedural rights. Ultimately, the Separation Authority directed Petitioner's separation with an Honorable (HON) characterization of service due to "Involuntary Discharge" and she was so discharged on 1 October 1996.

e. Reference (c) sets forth the Department of the Navy's current policies, standards, and procedures for correction of military records following the "don't ask, don't tell" (DADT) repeal of 10 U.S.C. 654. It provides service Discharge Review Boards with the guidance to normally grant requests to change the narrative reason for discharge to "Secretarial Authority," the separation code to "JFF," and the reenry code to "RE-1J," when the original discharge was based solely on DADT or a similar policy in place prior to enactment of it and there are no aggravating factors in the record, such as misconduct.

CONCLUSION:

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

The Board noted Petitioner's record supports that she was solely discharged on the basis of homosexuality. Further, the Board determined there were no aggravating factors in Petitioner's record. Therefore, the Board determined Petitioner was entitled to relief under reference (c). Even though Petitioner's reason for separation does not indicate she was separated for homosexuality, the Board determined it was in the interest to change Petitioner's reason for separation, consistent to reference (c), in order to remove any negative connotation associated with her discharge.

Regarding Petitioner's request for a discharge upgrade to Honorable, as noted above, the Board determined Petitioner was assigned an HON upon her discharge from the Marine Corps. Therefore, the Board took no action with regard to this aspect of Petitioner's application.

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 1 October 1996, she was discharged with a narrative reason for separation of "Secretarial Authority," SPD code of "JFF1," reenlistment code of "RE-1A," and separation authority of "MARCORSEPSMAN par.6214"

That all other information currently listed on Petitioner's DD Form 214 remain the same.

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

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[REDACTED] XXX XX [REDACTED] USMCR

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

3/18/2026

[REDACTED]

Executive Director

Signed by: [REDACTED]