



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

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Docket No. 11171-25
Ref: Signature Date

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Dear Petitioner:

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to Title 10, United States Code, Section 1552. 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 was 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 11 February 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 this 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.

A review of your record shows that you enlisted in the Marine Corps and commenced active duty on 19 September 2022. While you were on active duty, you were placed in the Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES). On 18 April 2025, an Informal Physical Evaluation Board (IPEB) found you to be unfit due to pain in right foot (stable) at 10%. In its findings, the IPEB specifically analyzed whether the disability caused by your unfitting condition was "combat-related" (CR) under the applicable laws. The IPEB also specifically considered whether your unfitting condition was incurred during service in a duly designated combat tax exclusion zone (CZ). In conducting its analysis of the foregoing, the IPEB considered that your Non-Medical Assessment characterized your condition as combat related and not incurred in a combat zone, noting that you injured your "foot and knee during the Crucible exercise at █ in Sept 2022." However, the IPEB determined that, "[d]ue to the passage of approximately 11 months from the claimed date of injury and the first treatment for it, there is a poor temporal relationship that the mechanism and date of the injury were the proximal cause of the referred condition." Further, according to the IPEB's findings, "no medical or service record, contemporaneous or otherwise, supports the injury was incurred in a CR event." Thus, the IPEB determined that your disability was not combat related and was not incurred in a combat zone. On 10 June 2025, you accepted the finding of the IPEB by executing your election of options (EOO), which reflected you did not request a Formal PEB hearing. On 23 June 2025, President, PEB, informed the Commandant of the Marine Corps of its findings and that you should be discharged with severance. You were thereafter discharged on 15 July 2025.

In your petition, you requested to have your record corrected to reflect that your unfitting condition arose during combat training and to recognize your disabilities as combat related. You also requested to have your medical separation changed to a medical retirement. In support of your requests, you asserted that your unfitting condition began during combat type training, are documented in her service and Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) records, and impose permanent limits on prolonged standing, lifting, ruck movements, and impact activities. You also argued that these restrictions impaired your safe duty performance, work capacity, and daily self-care, preventing fitness and deployability. You also averred that your medical board “did not occur due to inpatient mental health care and an EAS change.”

The Board carefully reviewed your petition and the material that you provided in support of your petition and disagreed with your rationale for relief. In reaching its decision, the Board observed that it applies a presumption of regularity to support the official actions of public officers and, in the absence of substantial evidence to the contrary, will presume that they have properly discharged their official duties. In its careful review of the entirety of the available records, including those that you provided, the Board determined that you provided insufficient evidence to overcome the presumption of regularity. In particular, you argued that your medical board did not occur due to inpatient mental health care and an EAS change. However, in its review of your petition, the Board obtained the findings of the IPEB in your case, which demonstrated that you were, in fact, reviewed by a “medical board” while you were in service. To the extent that you argue that the IPEB erred in its review of your conditions and in its finding that your condition was not combat related or incurred in a combat zone, the Board observed that the IPEB file specifically addressed these assertions. In fact, the Board observed that were reviewed through the entirety of the IDES process, reviewed by an IPEB, and that you accepted the findings of the IPEB. Under these circumstances, the Board was unable to find an error or injustice in your naval record with respect to your processing in the IDES and your resulting discharge as a result of the findings of the IPEB within that process. Accordingly, given the totality of the circumstances, the Board determined 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,

2/24/2026

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Executive Director

Signed by: █