



enlistment, both prior to and subsequent to the date of the Page 13 counseling, may result in a discharge under other than honorable conditions.

3. On 16 August 1995, you were notified that you were being recommended for administrative discharge from the Navy by reason of erroneous enlistment as evidenced by Hypothyroidism, which you had disclosed to the Branch Medical Clinic staff. You were advised of, and waived, your procedural rights that included your rights to consult with military counsel and submit a written statement. Ultimately, the separation authority directed your administrative discharge from the Navy and you were discharged, on 23 August 1995, with an uncharacterized entry-level separation (ELS) by reason of erroneous enlistment due to failed medical/physical procurement standards.

After careful review, the Board reached the following conclusions and denied your application for relief.

The Board initially concluded you were appropriately processed for administrative separation based on your disqualifying medical condition. While the Board carefully considered your contention for mitigation, the Board noted you admit to your hyperthyroidism. Therefore, the Board determined the presumption of regularity applies to your administrative separation and no error exists with your record.

The Board also considered the totality of the circumstances to determine whether equitable relief was warranted in the interests of justice in accordance with the Wilkie Memo. In this regard, the Board considered, amongst other factors, desire for an upgrade to your characterization of service, your contentions surrounding the circumstances of your separation, and your need for veterans' benefits.

The Board found that the mitigating factors were not nearly sufficient to justify any equitable relief. Specifically, the Board found your assigned uncharacterized ELS remains appropriate. The Board considered that service regulations direct the assignment of an uncharacterized entry-level separation for service members processed for separation, as you were, within their first 180 days of active duty. While there are exceptions to this policy, the Board found that none applied to you based on the circumstances of your separation. In reviewing the circumstances of your case, the Board was unable to discern any facts that were extraordinary or uniquely different from countless of other former service members who were discharged while in an ELS status. Even considering the circumstances of your separation after initially being granted entry into the Navy, the Board determined you case is not dissimilar from how other service members are processed for separation after that are identified as possessing a disqualifying physical condition for enlistment or induction. Moreover, absent a material error or injustice, the Board declined to summarily upgrade a discharge solely for the purpose of facilitating veterans' benefits, or enhancing educational or employment opportunities. While the Board considered your need for benefits, they determined this mitigation factor was insufficient to overcome the policy interests of the Navy in maintaining consistency within their personnel systems. Finally, the Board was not persuaded by your contention that you were told that you would receive an Honorable discharge by your chain of command. Regardless of whether you were told this information, the Board determined it was inconsistent with your notification of administrative separation

processing that specifically informed you that you would received an ELS or General (Under Honorable Conditions) description of service. On 16 August 1996, you also acknowledged you that your separation could result in an ELS. Thus, the Board found no injustice with your assignment of an uncharacterized ELS upon your separation.

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,

3/18/2026

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Executive Director

Signed by: █