



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS

701 S. COURTHOUSE RD

ARLINGTON, VA 22204



Docket No. 12144-25

Ref: Signature Date



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.

The Board determined your personal appearance with or without counsel would not materially add to their understanding of the issues involved. Therefore, the Board determined a personal appearance was not necessary and considered your case based on the evidence of record.

A review of your naval record reveals that you enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve and commenced initial training on 13 August 2018. After completing your initial active service requirement on 7 June 2019, you were released to your Reserve unit. You provided documentation that, while you were in the Marine Corps Reserve, you underwent a Medical Retention Review (MRR) and were, thereafter, discharged on 2 July 2023. You also provided documentation reflecting that, post-service, you were awarded a variety of service-connected disabilities by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

In your application to this Board, you requested to have your discharge changed to reflect that it was due to service connected disabilities. In support of your request, you argue that, at the time of your discharge, your condition had not yet been recognized by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) as service connected. You provided VA documentation confirming your service connected disabilities, as well as service records, in support of your request.

The Board carefully reviewed your contentions and the material that you submitted in support of your request 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 reviewing the available materials with respect to your petition, it appeared that you were subject to MRR processing and appropriately discharged as a result of that process. There is no indication that the medical condition(s) for which you were discharged was incurred or aggravated during a period of service. For example, there is no indication that you sought and were issued an in-Line of Duty finding. Further, your available records did not contain, nor did you provide, any documentation reflecting that any service medical professional or anyone in your command considered that you should be referred for review of fitness within the Disability Evaluation System (DES). Finally, the Board found your reliance upon your post-service findings by the VA granting you service connected disabilities to not be persuasive because the Board noted that the VA does not make determinations as to fitness for service as contemplated within the DES. Rather, eligibility for compensation and pension disability ratings by the VA is tied to the establishment of service connection and is manifestation-based without a requirement that unfitness for military duty be demonstrated. As a result, the Board found that you provided insufficient evidence to overcome the presumption of regularity that you properly discharged as a result of the MRR 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,

3/4/2026

