



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

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Docket No. 275-26
Ref: Signature Date

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Dear Petitioner:

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to Section 1552 of Title 10, United States Code. 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 insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice. Consequently, your application has been denied.

Because your application was submitted with new evidence not previously considered, the Board found it in the interest of justice to review your application. A three-member panel of the Board, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 30 January 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 naval record, applicable statutes, regulations, and policies, to include the 25 August 2017 guidance from the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (Kurta Memo) and the 25 July 2018 guidance from the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness regarding equity, injustice, or clemency determinations (Wilkie Memo).

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

You previously applied to this Board to have your reentry code changed from RE-4. On 15 August 2025, the Board partially granted relief to you in the form of certain remedial changes to your DD Form 214. Specifically, the Board changed your separation authority, separation code, and narrative reason for separation to indicate a "Secretarial Authority" discharge instead of a diagnosed personality disorder. The Board determined that describing your service with a

character and behavior disorder attached an unnecessary negative stigma and medical privacy concerns, in part, dictated a change. However, the previous Board did not make any changes to your RE-4 reentry code. The Board concluded you were assigned the correct reentry code based on the totality of your circumstances, and that such reentry code was proper and in compliance with all Department of the Navy directives and policy at the time of your discharge. The summary of your service remains substantially unchanged from that addressed in the Board's previous decision.

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

The Board initially concluded you were appropriately assigned an RE-4 reentry based on your While the Board carefully considered your contentions of error, the Board found them to be unpersuasive. Specifically, the Board found that you were psychiatrically evaluated by a qualified mental health professional and diagnosed with a personality disorder. Therefore, the Board determined the presumption of regularity applies to the finding that were properly separated for the convenience of the government and assigned a RE-4 reentry code based on your unsuitability for further military service.

The Board applied liberal consideration to your claim that you suffered from a mental health condition, and to the effect that this condition may have had upon the conduct for which you were discharged in accordance with the Kurta Memo. Applying such liberal consideration, the Board found insufficient evidence of a diagnosis of mental health condition, other than your personality and adjustment disorders, that may be attributed to military service. This conclusion is supported by the lack of any medical evidence provided by you and your response to the Board's request for supporting evidence as part of your previous application to this Board. In that response, you stated "my intention was never to insinuate that I had a prior mental health condition by checking the box."

In addition to applying liberal consideration to your claimed mental health condition and its potential effect upon your discharge in accordance with the Kurta Memo, the Board also considered the totality of the circumstances to determine whether equitable relief is warranted in the interests of justice in accordance with the Wilkie Memo. In this regard, the Board considered, amongst other factors, the totality of your service, your desire for continued military service, your relative youth and immaturity at the time of your misconduct, the negative effect your discharge has had on your life, your post-service record of accomplishments, the character reference you provided, your arguments why your "RE-4" reentry code was erroneously assigned and unjust, and the passage of time since your discharge.

The Board found that the mitigating factors were not nearly sufficient to justify any equitable relief. Specifically, the Board found that your assigned reentry code remains appropriate.

First, the Board was not persuaded by your argument that the previous Board's decision to change your reason for separation to "Secretarial Authority" was inconsistent with its decision to maintain your "RE-4" reentry code. The previous Board's grant of relief was based on their determination that annotating your reason for separation as a diagnosed personality disorder was

unjust since, in addition to creating an unnecessary negative stigma, it conflicted with medical privacy concerns. However, the previous Board determined your assigned reentry code was issued in accordance with all applicable regulations. This Board affirms that conclusion. Specifically, the Board noted that reentry codes are designed to characterize a service member's future eligibility to enlist or reenlist after discharge or separation from the military service. The assignment of the code is based on a commanding officer's assessment of whether the member should be recommended for reenlistment. In your case, the commanding officer determined you were not medically suitable for naval service based on your psychiatric evaluation that diagnosed you with a personality disorder and found you unsuitable for continued active duty. In particular, the medical recommendation for your separation stated you suffered from conditions that were "sufficiently severe to impair significantly the member's ability to function effectively in a military environment," your retention in service would result in "increase harm to self/others and detraction from unit morale and readiness," and your condition was not considered "amendable to effective treatment in the military setting." In review of all the evidence, the Board found no evidence that your commanding officer's reliance on the psychiatric evaluation's findings and diagnoses was unreasonable or inconsistent with applicable regulations.

Second, the Board considered your contention that the previous Board relied on "a demonstrably false 2004 psychiatric report," in making their findings. Specifically, you argue the aspect of the report that indicated you were involved in fights with weapons was false since you had no disciplinary record in the Navy. In reviewing your record, the Board observed that during your mental health evaluation in early November 2004 you specifically indicated you would sometimes use weapons during a fight. The examining MO noted the following in your social development history portion of your treatment record:

"While he was in college, he lived in an apartment on campus. He reports have [sic] been involved in numerous physical fights at school and socially, whenever he would get angry because of the way other people may look at him or treat him. *He reports that he knew that he had an advantage because of his martial arts training, but would occasionally resort to using weapons in a fight such as a piece of wood or a baseball bat.*" (emphasis added)

The Board found this evidence to be credible and determined the previous Board accurately summarized the psychiatric report; including the description of you fighting with weapons.

Third, the Board considered your argument that Secretary Hegseth's "Total Character" standard (TCS) mandates holistic review not available during the previous Board. Additionally, that you have proven your "total character" meets the standard for induction into the military based on your post-service success, integrity, and dedication to family. The Board determined that your reliance on TCS is misplaced. The Board noted that the TCS, *inter alia*, instead refers to Secretary Hegseth's push for uncompromising, gender-neutral, mission-focused physical and professional standards in the U.S. military, particularly for combat roles, and emphasizes high level performance to ensure lethal readiness, removing "toxic leadership" fears, and ending "walking on eggshells" cultures by enforcing strict fitness and conduct. Thus, the Board found TCS inapplicable to the circumstances of your case. Moreover, the previous Board specifically

stated that it applied the Wilkie factors in reviewing your case, which included a holistic review of the record. Therefore, the Board found your argument to be unpersuasive.

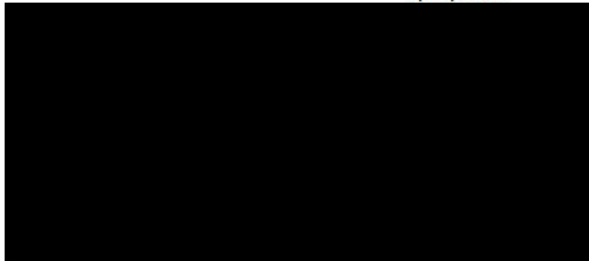
Ultimately, the Board agreed with your commanding officer's assessment that you are not medically qualified for further military service based on your diagnosed personality and adjustment disorders. While the Board commends you for your post-service accomplishments and good character, it found these factors to be insufficient to overcome the medical evidence in your record. Specifically, that your diagnosed personality disorder was incompatible with military service. Even though the Board agrees that you likely have no restrictions or limitations within your civilian environment, the nature of military service and operations requires each member meet minimum physical requirements unique to military service. Absent substantial evidence that you would no longer suffer from symptoms of your personality disorder or adjustment disorder while in a military environment¹, the Board was reluctant to change your reentry code to one where you would be eligible to reenter military service.

Accordingly, given the totality of the circumstances, the Board determined that 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,

2/17/2026



¹ The Board conceded that it would be difficult for you to provide such proof without being afforded another opportunity to serve in a military/operational environment. Regardless, the Board found no injustice in your case after weighing the interests of the Department of War in maintaining its military induction standards against your inability to serve in the military.