



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

██████████
Docket No. 349-26
Ref: Signature Date

██████████
██████████
██████████

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.

Although you did not file your application in a timely manner, the Board found it in the interest of justice to waive the statute of limitations and consider your application on its merits. A three-member panel of the Board, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 2 March 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, and applicable statutes, regulations, and policies, to include the 25 July 2018 guidance from the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness regarding equity, injustice or clemency determinations (Wilkie Memo).

The following is the relevant factual background of your case based upon review of your naval record and/or the matters provided with your application:

1. You enlisted in the Navy and began a period of active duty on 4 February 1997.
2. On 11 February 1997, you were seen by Branch Medical Clinic, ██████████ and diagnosed with keratoconus, a condition that existed prior to your entry into the Navy.
3. On 2 February 1997, you were notified that you were being considered for an administrative separation from the Naval service by reason of defective enlistment and induction due to erroneous enlistment as evidenced by your diagnosis of keratoconus.
4. On 20 February 1997, you were discharged from the Navy after 17 days of active-duty service and received an uncharacterized entry-level separation (ELS) with a narrative reason for separation of Failed Medical/Physical Procurement Standards with a reentry code of RE-4.

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 preexisting eye condition that was disqualifying for enlistment. The Board noted you do not dispute your diagnosis; therefore, the Board determined the presumption of regularity applies to your administrative separation and no error exists with your uncharacterized ELS.

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, your contentions, the totality of your service, your post-service accomplishments, and the passage of time since your discharge.

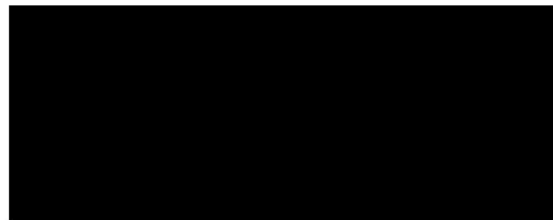
The Board found that the mitigating factors were not nearly sufficient to justify any equitable relief. Specifically, the Board noted that MILPERSMAN 1910-308 authorizes an uncharacterized separation from the Navy when separation is initiated while a member is in an entry-level status. At the time of your active-duty service, entry-level status was defined as the first 180 days of continuous active military service.¹ Since your administrative separation was initiated by the 12 February 1997 notification letter, the Board found that your separation was initiated within your first two weeks of continuous active-duty service. While there are exceptions to this policy, the Board determined none apply in your case. Ultimately, the Board determined the circumstances of your case mirrors that of countless of other service members who are assigned uncharacterized ELS discharges and, thus, found no evidence that an injustice exists with your record.

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,

3/6/2026



¹ DoDD 1332.14, Enlisted Administrative Separations, 1 August 2024, defines entry-level status as the first 365 days of continuous active military service. MILPERSMAN 1910-308, Ch-85, 2 October 2023 reflects the updated definition of entry-level status to the first 365 days rather than the first 180 days of continuous active military service.