

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

JAN 13 1999

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: 98-01708

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING DESIRED: NO

APPLICANT REQUESTS THAT:

He be awarded the Meritorious Service Medal instead of the Air Force Commendation Medal.

APPLICANT CONTENDS THAT:

The reasons the applicant believes the records to be in error or unjust and the evidence submitted in support of the appeal is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS:

The relevant facts pertaining to this application, extracted from the applicant's military records, are contained in the letter prepared by the appropriate office of the Air Force. Accordingly, there is no need to recite these facts in this Record of Proceedings.

AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

The Recognition Programs Branch, AFPC/DPPRA, reviewed the application and states that the applicant has not submitted any documentation to show that he made any attempt to resolve the issue through administrative channels, nor has he offered any explanation for his lack of action in this respect. He has not provided sufficient documentation to support his claim, or statements from any official in his (then) chain of command. His service was meritorious, but does not warrant award of the Meritorious Service Medal. Therefore, they recommend denial of applicant's request.

A complete copy of the Air Force evaluation is attached at Exhibit C.

APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

On 13 July 1998, a complete copy of the Air Force evaluation was forwarded to the applicant for review and response within 30 days. As of this date, no response has been received by this office.

THE BOARD CONCLUDES THAT:

1. The applicant has exhausted all remedies provided by existing law or regulations.
2. The application was timely filed.
3. Sufficient relevant evidence has been presented to demonstrate the existence of probable error or injustice. After reviewing the evidence of record, the majority of the Board is of the opinion that the applicant's services were clearly outstanding in the accomplishments he made during the period in question. In this respect, we note that the Flight Commander states that his efforts and dedication to the military community were critical to the process of emotional healing to the entire 92nd Air Refueling Wing and he fully supports him in the effort to be duly recognized for his heroic and selfless efforts while a member of the 92 Medical Group, Fairchild AFB. In view of the above, the majority of the Board recommends that the applicant be awarded the MSM.

THE BOARD RECOMMENDS THAT:

The pertinent military records of the Department of the Air Force relating to APPLICANT, be corrected to show that:

- a. The Air Force Commendation Medal, First Oak Leaf Cluster, rendered for the period 16 September 1991 to 1 July 1996, be declared void and removed from his records.
- b. On 10 July 1996, he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal for the period 16 September 1991 to 1 July 1996.

The following members of the Board considered this application in Executive Session on 22 September 1998, under the provisions of AFI 36-2603:

Mr. David W. Mulgrew, Panel Chair
Mrs. Margaret A. Zook, Member
Mr. Gary Appleton, Member
Ms. Phyllis L. Spence, Examiner (without vote)

By a majority vote, the Board voted to correct the records, as recommended. Mr. Mulgrew voted to deny the application and has submitted a Minority Report. The following documentary evidence was considered:

- Exhibit A. DD Form 149, dated 1 May 1998, w/atchs.
- Exhibit B. Applicant's Master Personnel Records.
- Exhibit C. Letter, AFPC/DPPRA, dated 25 Jun 98.
- Exhibit D. Letter, AFBCMR, dated 13 Jul 98.
- Exhibit E. Minority Report



DAVID W. MULGREW
Panel Chair