

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2011-05085
COUNSEL: NONE
HEARING DESIRED: NO

APPLICANT REQUESTS THAT:

His DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, be corrected to reflect the following awards:

- a. The Air Force Commendation Medal (AFCM) - **Administratively corrected.**
- b. The Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (GWOT-E).
- c. The Global War on Terrorism Service Medal (GWOT-S) - **Administratively corrected.**

APPLICANT CONTENDS THAT:

He was awarded the AFCM after he separated from the Air Force. The GWOT awards had not been implemented by the Air Force prior to his separation; however, since that time the criteria has been published and he qualifies for the awards for his deployments in support of Operations SOUTHERN WATCH, ENDURING FREEDOM, and IRAQI FREEDOM in Qatar, Oman, and Saudi Arabia, respectively.

In support of his request, the applicant provides a copy of his citation and a copy of his AF Form 77, *Supplemental Evaluation Sheet*,

His complete submission, with attachments, is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS:

The applicant served in the Regular Air Force in the grade of staff sergeant (E-5). He received an honorable discharge on 20 Aug 04 after serving 9 years, 4 month, and 1 day on active duty.

AFPC/DPSIDR verified the applicant's entitlement to the AFCM, GWOT-S, and Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border and one Oak Leaf Cluster (AFESR w/GB & 1 OLC).

The GWOT-E criteria: Is awarded to Air Force Active Duty, Reserve, and Guard personnel who have deployed abroad to the areas of eligibility (AOE) to include Iraq, on or after 11 Sep 01 for service in Operations ENDURING FREEDOM (OEF) or IRAQI FREEDOM (OIF) and meet one of the following:

1. Assigned, attached or mobilized to a unit participating in OEF/OIF and serving for 30 consecutive days or 50 non-consecutive days.

2. Be engaged in actual combat against the enemy and under circumstances involving grave danger or death or serious bodily injury from enemy action, regardless of time served in OEF/OIF.

3. Killed wounded or injured requiring medical evaluation from OEF/OIF.

4. Service members who, as a regularly assigned crew member flying sorties into, out of, within or over the AOE in direct support of OEF/OIF, are eligible to qualify for award of the GWOT-E. Each day that one or more sorties are flown shall count as one day toward the 30 or 60 day requirement.

AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

AFPC/DPSIDRA recommends awarding the applicant the GWOT-E and removing the AFEM from his records. After a thorough review of the applicant's records and the Military Personnel Data System (MilPDS) DPSIDRA was able to confirm that the applicant received the Air Force Expeditionary Medal (AFEM) for a deployment from 22 Sep 01 to 18 Mar 02; however, in accordance with 8106 Message, the applicant should have received the GWOT-E and the AFESR w/Gold Border (AFESR w/GB) for this deployment in support of OEF and not the AFEM.

The applicant deployed to Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia, from 30 Jan to 1 Aug 03 in direct support of OIF. It appears since the applicant received the incorrect award for his first deployment, he should only be entitled to one OLC to the AFESR w/BG for this deployment.

DPSIDR was unable to verify the applicant's deployment to Qatar and Oman. Furthermore, the applicant would only be entitled to the basic award of the GWOT-E had he also deployed non-concurrent or non-consecutively to Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and Oman. Only one award of the GWOT-E is authorized for serving in OEF/OIF, regardless of how many times an individual returns to serve in OEF/OIF.

The complete DPSIDRA evaluation is at Exhibit B.

APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

A copy of the Air Force evaluation was forwarded to the applicant on 20 Mar 12 for review and comment within 30 days. As of this date, this office has received no response.

THE BOARD CONCLUDES THAT:

1. The applicant has exhausted all remedies provided by existing law or regulations.
2. The application was not timely filed; however, it is in the interest of justice to excuse the failure to timely file.
3. Sufficient relevant evidence has been presented to demonstrate the existence of error or injustice that warrants corrective action. We note the applicant's record will be administratively corrected to reflect award of the AFCM and the GWOT-S. Regarding his request for award of the GWOT-E, the evidence of record substantiates the applicant deployed to the area of responsibility in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM which authorizes him entitlement to the award of the GWOT-E. Accordingly, we recommend the applicant's records be corrected as indicated below.

THE BOARD RECOMMENDS THAT:

The pertinent military records of the Department of the Air Force relating to APPLICANT be corrected to reflect that Item 13, *Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations, and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized*, of the DD Form 214, *Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge*, issued in conjunction with his 30 August 2004 completion of required service, be amended to include the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (GWOT-E).

The following members of the Board considered AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2011-05085 in Executive Session on 30 Aug 12, under the provisions of AFI 36-2603:

Panel Chair
Member
Member

All members voted to correct the records, as recommended. The following documentary evidence was considered:

Exhibit A. DD Form 149, dated 19 Dec 11, w/atchs.
Exhibit B. Applicant's Master Personnel Records.
Exhibit C. Letter, AFPC/DPSIDR, dated 14 Feb 12.
Exhibit D. Letter, SAF/MRBR, dated 20 Mar 12.

Panel Chair

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