

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS  
AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2012-01949  
COUNSEL: NONE  
HEARING DESIRED: NO

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APPLICANT REQUESTS THAT:

His DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, be corrected to reflect award of the Meritorious Service Medal (MSM).

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APPLICANT CONTENDS THAT:

He was awarded the MSM on 11 Mar 82; however, the decoration was not recorded in his official military records.

In support of his request, the applicant provides copies of his DD Form 214, signed MSM certificate and citation.

The applicant's complete submission, with attachments, is at Exhibit A.

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STATEMENT OF FACTS:

The applicant served on active duty in the Regular Air Force from 1 Feb 62 to 31 Jan 82. He was progressively promoted to the grade of master sergeant having assumed the grade effective and with a date of rank of 1 Nov 80. He was honorably retired on 1 Feb 82.

The MSM is awarded to any member of the Armed Forces of the United States who distinguished themselves by either outstanding achievement or meritorious service to the United States.

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AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

AFPC/DPSIDR recommends denial. DPSIDR states without the Special Order that verifies the applicant was awarded the MSM, they must recommend disapproval.

The complete DPSIDR evaluation is at Exhibit B.

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APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

On 2 Jul 12, a copy of the Air Force evaluation was forwarded to the applicant for review and comment within 30 days. As of this date, a response has not been received by this office (Exhibit C).

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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. After a thorough review of the evidence presented, we are persuaded relief is warranted. We believe the evidence provided substantiates the applicant's claim that he was awarded the MSM and that it was approved up through the chain of command. We note the MSM certificate the applicant submitted was dated 11 Mar 82, and the applicant's date of separation was 31 Jan 82; thus, raising reasonable doubt that it should be reflected on his DD Form 214. Therefore, in the interest of justice, we recommend the applicant's records be corrected to reflect award of the MSM.
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THE BOARD RECOMMENDS THAT:

The pertinent military records of the Department of the Air Force relating to the APPLICANT, be corrected to show that his DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, issued in conjunction with his 31 January 1982 retirement, be amended in Block 13, *Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized*, to reflect the Meritorious Service Medal (MSM).

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The following members of the Board considered AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2012-01949 in Executive Session on 18 Oct 12, under the provisions of AFI 36-2603:

- , Chair
- , Member
- , Member

All members voted to correct the records, as recommended. The following documentary evidence pertaining to Docket Number BC-2012-01949 was considered:

- Exhibit A. DD Form 149, dated 16 Apr 12, w/atchs.
- Exhibit B. Letter, AFPC/DPSIDR, dated 14 Jun 12.
- Exhibit C. Letter, SAF/MRBR, dated 2 Jul 12.

Chair