

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2012-02399

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING DESIRED: NO

APPLICANT REQUESTS THAT:

1. His special program designator (SPD) code KGQ (*intradepartmental transfer*) be changed to KGN (*commissioned or warrant officer in another branch of service <ROTC>*).
2. He be relieved of the \$2,468.98 reenlistment bonus debt.

APPLICANT CONTENDS THAT:

He was selected for a pilot position in the Alaska Air National Guard during the 2011 selection board. Under PALACE CHASE, his date of separation (DOS) was moved from 18 June 2012 to 1 January 2012, with an effective date of his ANG enlistment as 2 January 2012. As a result of this PALACE CHASE action, he has incurred a debt of about \$2500.00, for the remainder of his enlistment bonus from the 1A271 Loadmaster career field.

He understands the SPD code denotes PALACE CHASE; however, the only reason he separated was to expedite his ability to pursue a greater commitment to the Air Force and the Air National Guard by committing to pilot training and a position as a pilot with the ANG. He requests the debt be found invalid.

In support of his request, the applicant provides documentation from his master personnel records, debt recoupment letter, and his selection for undergraduate flying training documentation.

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

STATEMENT OF FACTS:

The applicant enlisted in the Regular Air Force on 16 July 2002, On 18 April 2011, the applicant was selected to attend Joint Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training with the Alaska Air National Guard. On 1 January 2012, he separated from active duty under the PALACE CHASE program. He was subsequently

notified by the Defense Finance and Accounting Services (DFAS) that he owed \$2,468.98 for the unearned portion of his reenlistment bonus in accordance with his separation program designator of KGQ.

AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

AFPC/DPSOR provides the following information. The applicant separated under the provisions of PALACE CHASE on 1 January 2012 with a separation program designator of KGQ - PALACE CHASE. Airmen are subject to monetary recoupment of education assistance, special pay, bonus or similar benefits at pro-rata share based on the period of unfulfilled active duty service commitment. The applicant acknowledged that he would be required to repay any unearned portion of his bonus prior to his separation from active duty.

The applicant separated from active duty via the PALACE CHASE program and the only SPD code for members separating after fulfilling their military service obligation is KGQ. SPD code KGN references commissioned or warrant officer in another branch of service. The applicant transferred to the Air National Guard which is not another branch of service.

The complete DPSOR evaluation, with attachments, is at Exhibit B.

DFAS recommends denial. The applicant separated from active duty with a debt of \$2,468.98 due to an unearned portion of a bonus.

The complete DFAS evaluation is at Exhibit C.

APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

He joined the Air Force as an Aircraft Loadmaster in July 2002. He reenlisted in June 2006 for 6 years. He has fulfilled his duties under this assigned position. He now seeks a new challenge and a chance to chase a dream. He was fortunate to be selected for this training. His hands were tied with regards to accomplishing the pre-commissioning requirements. He applied for the PALACE CHASE program in order to expedite his ability to enter the Academy of Military Science and Undergraduate Pilot training. He understands the conditions of his reenlistment and repayment of his unearned separation bonus. He has begun repayment, yet, requests the debt be relieved.

The applicant's complete response is at Exhibit E.

THE BOARD CONCLUDES THAT:

1. The applicant has exhausted all remedies provided by existing law or regulations.
2. The application was timely filed.
3. Insufficient relevant evidence has been presented to demonstrate the existence of error or injustice. After a thorough review of the applicant's submission in judging the merits of the case, we are not persuaded that a change in the record is warranted. The applicant's contentions are duly noted; however, he has not provided persuasive evidence to override the rationale provided by AFPC/DPSOR. Therefore, we agree with their opinion and recommendation and adopt its rationale as the basis for our conclusion that the applicant has not been the victim of an error or injustice. In the absence of persuasive evidence to the contrary, we find no basis to recommend granting the relief sought in this application.

THE BOARD DETERMINES THAT:

The applicant be notified that the evidence presented did not demonstrate the existence of material error or injustice; that the application was denied without a personal appearance; and that the application will only be reconsidered upon the submission of newly discovered relevant evidence not considered with this application.

The following members of the Board considered AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2012-02399 in Executive Session on 14 November 2012 under the provisions of AFI 36-2603:

, Panel Chair
, Member
, Member

The following documentary evidence was considered:

- Exhibit A. DD Form 149, dated 1 Jun 12, w/atchs.
- Exhibit B. Letter, AFPC/DPSOR, dated 3 Aug 12, w/atchs.
- Exhibit C. Letter, DFAS-IN, undated.
- Exhibit D. Letter, SAF/MRBR, dated 6 Aug 12.
- Exhibit E. Letter, Applicant's Response, dated 14 Aug 12.

Acting Panel Chair