RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

IN THE MATTER OF: DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2012-01886

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING DESIRED: NO

APPLICANT REQUESTS THAT:

His DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, be corrected to reflect award of the Meritorious Unit Award with second oak leaf cluster (MUA w/20LC).

APPLICANT CONTENDS THAT:

He was awarded two previous MUAs while assigned to the 3rd Combat Communications Group ($3^{\rm rd}$ CCG).

He was deployed to the 506th Electronic Communications Squadron (ECS) during the period May 06 to Sep 06. Subsequently, the unit was awarded the MUA during the period 1 May 05 to 31 Jan 07. However, he was never informed the unit received the award until after he was discharged.

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

STATEMENT OF FACTS:

In Mar 04, the Secretary of the Air Force (SECAF) approved the MUA to recognize organizations for outstanding achievement or service in direct support of combat operations. The MUA is given Active Duty Air Force, Reserve and Guard units for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance outstanding achievement or service in direct support of combat operations for at least 90 continuous days during the period of military operations against an armed enemy of the United States on or after 11 Sep 11. The unit must display such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions. The degree of achievement required is the same as that which would warrant award of the Legion of Merit (LOM). Superior performance of normal mission will not alone justify award of the Service in a combat zone is not required, but service must be directly related to the combat effort. Squadrons, groups, and wings may be recommended for this award.

AFPC/DPSID was able to determine the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (AFOUA) and the Air Force Achievement Medal (AFAM) should have been awarded during the applicant's service from 13 Jul 04 to 7 Jun 07. The applicant's records will be administratively corrected to reflect these awards.

AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

AFPC/DPSID recommends denial. DPSIDR states the applicant was awarded the MUA during his assignment to the 31st Combat Communications Squadron during the period 14 Jul 04 to 21 Apr 06. In addition, he was awarded the first OLC to the MUA during his assignment to the 506th ECS. However, they were unable to locate any official documentation awarding an additional MUA to a unit to which the applicant was assigned during the award period.

The complete DPSID evaluation, with attachment, is at Exhibit C.

APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

A copy of the Air Force evaluation was forwarded to the applicant on 27 Aug 12, for review and comment within 30 days (Exhibit D). As of this date, this office has not received a 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. Insufficient relevant evidence has been presented to demonstrate the existence of error or injustice. We took notice of the applicant's complete submission in judging the merits of the case; however, we agree with the opinion and recommendation of the Air Force office of primary responsibility and adopt its rationale as the basis for our conclusion the applicant has not been the victim of an error or injustice. In view of the above and in the absence of evidence to the contrary, we find no basis to recommend granting further relief in this case.

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 Docket Number BC-2012-01886 in Executive Session on 7 Mar 13, under the provisions of AFI 36-2603:

Panel Chair Member Member

The following documentary evidence was considered:

Exhibit A. DD Form 149, dated 23 Apr 12, w/atchs.

Exhibit B. Applicant's Master Personnel Record.

Exhibit C. Letter, AFPC/DPSID, dated 17 Aug 12, w/atch.

Exhibit D. Letter, SAF/MRBR, dated 27 Aug 12.

Panel Chair