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AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD DECISIONAL RATIONALE

FD2002-0047

GENERAL: The applicant appeals to change the reason and authority for the discharge.

The applicant was offered a personal appearance before the Discharge Review Board but declined to exercise this right.

The attached brief contains available pertinent data on the applicant and the factors leading to the discharge.

FINDINGS: Change of reason and authority for discharge are denied.

The Board finds that neither evidence of record nor that provided by the applicant substantiates an inequity or impropriety that would justify a change of discharge.

Issue. Applicant received an Honorable discharge based on a personality disorder that interfered with military service but did not medically disgualify her. Additionally member had an Article 15 for disorderly conduct and making a false official statement, had a referral "2" Enlisted Performance Report, and exceeded Weight and Body Fat Measurement Program standards. Applicant contends the discharge was improper because she did not have a personality disorder, and implies that the record does not support the reason for discharge. She states she was unhappy in the military because of a work-related incident she felt was improperly handled, and having a supervisor who didn't like her. Records review disclosed member was a patient of the Mental Health Clinic from September 1998 through the time of her discharge. Before the discharge was recommended, it was determined by the Air Force Chief of Mental Health Services at member's duty location, along with a civilian psychiatrist and civilian psychologist, that member had an adjustment disorder with mixed anxiety, depressed mood, and a schizoid personality disorder. This was deemed related to distress about a pending permanent change of station to Korea, and member's concern about having to work in close proximity to others and live with a roommate. The clinicians stated that if member were sent to Korea she would be unlikely to successfully complete the assignment due to her aversion to associating with other people, and that member had a poor prognosis for long term military functioning because increased supervisory responsibility would be incompatible with her diagnosis. At the time of discharge member consulted legal counsel but chose not to submit matters in her own behalf. Through the records review the Board confirmed member's ability to function in a military environment was impaired, and could not find an impropriety or an inequity upon which to base a change in reason or authority for the discharge.

CONCLUSIONS: The Discharge Review Board concludes that the discharge was consistent with the procedural and substantive requirements of the discharge regulation and was within the discretion of the discharge authority and that the applicant was provided full administrative due process.

In view of the foregoing findings the board further concludes that there exists no legal or equitable basis to change the reason or authority for the discharge, thus the applicant's discharge should not be changed.

Attachment: Examiner's Brief

FD2002-0047

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD ANDREWS AFB, MD

(Former SRA) (HGH SRA)

1. MATTER UNDER REVIEW: Appl rec'd a Honorable Disch fr USAF 99/08/25 UP AFI 36-3208, para 5.11.1 (Personality Disorder). Appeals for a Change in Reason and Authority for Disch.

2. BACKGROUND:

a. DOB: 70/04/12. Enlmt Age: 24 4/12. Disch Age: 29 4/12. Educ: HS DIPL. AFQT: N/A. A-22, E-93, G-88, M-51. PAFSC 3C051 - Communications-Computer Systems Operations Journeyman. DAS: 95/05/17.

b. Prior Sv: (1) AFRes 94/08/18 - 94/12/07 (3 months 20 days) (Inactive).

(2) Enlisted as A1C 94/12/08 for 4 yrs. Svd: 3 yrs 4 months 0 days, all AMS. SRA - 97/04/08. EPRs: 5,5.

3. SERVICE UNDER REVIEW:

a. Reenlisted as SRA 98/04/09 for 4 yrs. Svd: 01 Yrs 04 Mo 16 Das, all AMS.

- b. Grade Status: none.
- c. Time Lost: none.
- d. Art 15's: (1) 98/10/06, David-Monthan AFB, AZ Article 107. YOU, did, on or about 17 Sep 98, with intent to deceive, make to MSgt -----, an official statement, to wit: that you had not made a telephone call, to Mrs. -----, which statement was totally false, and was then known by you to be so false. Article 134. You, were, on or about 16 Sep 98, disorderly in that you called Mrs.------- residence screaming and yelling, which conduct was of a nature to bring discredit upon the armed forces. Reduction to A1C (suspended until 04 Feb 99), forfeiture of \$100.00 pay per month for two months (suspended until 04 Feb 99), 7 days extra duty, and a reprimand. (No appeal) (No mitigation)
- e. Additional: none.
- f. CM: none.
- g. Record of SV: 97/07/16 98/07/15 Davis-Monthan AFB 4 (Annual) 98/07/16 - 99/07/15 Davis-Monthan AFB 2 (Annual)REF

(Discharged from Davis-Monthan AFB

h. Awards & Decs: AFLSAR, AFTR, NDSM, AFOUA, AFGCM.

i. Stmt of Sv: TMS: (05) Yrs (00) Mos (08) Das TAMS: (04) Yrs (08) Mos (17) Das

4. BASIS ADVANCED FOR REVIEW: Appln (DD Fm 293) dtd 02/01/28. (Change Discharge to Honorable)

Issue 1: On August 25, 1999, I received an honorable and involuntary discharge from the Air Force. The reason for separation on my DD-214 is "personality disorder". (sic) I want this changed because I believe the diagnosis is inaccurate; and having it on my DD-214 may limit my future employment options.

I started going for counseling in September of 1998 at the base mental health center. Before that time I had not received any mental health counseling either on or off base. I started going because of work related problems. There was a work-related incident I felt was handled in a way that was very unfair to me, and I found out a person who had always disliked me was going to be my new supervisor.

These things completely changed my attitude about my job and about the Air Force. I hated going to work after that, I hated my job duties, I hated the people who had treated me so badly, and I hated the Air Force. I had just reenlisted in April of 1998, but after September I was looking forward to getting out. I no longer had any desire to be promoted, I just wanted out.

For several weeks I attended stress management and anger management at the base mental health center, and had individual counseling sessions until I left the Air Force in August of 1999. But this never made me any less angry or any less depressed.

I intended to stay in the Air Force until my term was up in April of 2002, but there was an unexpected opportunity to get out much sooner. I received orders to go to Korea in May of 1999. The counselor I was seeing at the time said I might not be deployable, and if I took some psychiatric tests he could find out. He implied I should exaggerate my normal personality traits, so that is what I did. I didn't say anything that was not true, but I mentioned my tendency to be introverted and solitary as many times as I could. So I got diagnosed with schizoid personality disorder.

Although I was glad to be out of the Air Force, having the words "personality disorder" on my DD-214 was a problem right away. I didn't like showing it to anyone. I applied for a job with the state and claimed veteran status, and I think they never considered my application for that reason.

After doing some research I became convinced the diagnosis was inaccurate, so I went to the veterans' center and took another psychiatric test. This one showed that I have no mental illnesses. I am enclosing a copy of it as evidence. Please review my case as soon as possible.

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- 1. Applicant's Issues.
- **2. DD** Form 214.
- 3. Senatorial Correspondence.
- 4. Privacy Act Consent Form.
- 5. Congressional Response.

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FD2002-0047



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS 355TH WING (ACC) DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, ARIZONA

MEMORANDUM FOR 355 WG/CC

FROM: 355 WG/JA

SUBJECT: Legal Review of Proposed Discharge f S: 355 CS

1. **LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:** I have reviewed the administrative discharge case file regarding SrA **Constant of the Respondent**. The proposed discharge is supported by the evidence. There are no errors that prejudice the rights of the Respondent. Therefore, the file is legally sufficient, subject to a medical determination that the Respondent is qualified for worldwide duty and separation.

2. BASIS FOR DISCHARGE AND REHABILITATIVE MEASURES: Maj

Geom, 355 CS/CC, recommends the Respondent be discharged from the Air Force under AFI 36-3208, paragraph 5.11.1, mental disorders, without probation and rehabilitation. He recommends the Respondent's service be characterized as honorable. The basis for the proposed discharge is the Respondent's diagnosed Adjustment Disorder with Mixed Anxiety and Depressed Mood and a Schizoid Personality Disorder that significantly interferes with her ability to function effectively in the military. This disorder was diagnosed in the course of an evaluation occurring on 1 Jun 99. The diagnosis and opinion of the evaluating mental health professional support the existence of a mental disorder so severe that it significantly interferes with the Respondent's continued military service.

3. <u>SERVICE HISTORY</u>: The Respondent **has** been on active duty for approximately **4** years and 8 months. She has four enlisted performance reports with overall ratings of 2, 4, 5, and 5. The Respondent's awards and decorations includes National Defense Service Medal and Air Force Training Ribbon.

4. <u>**RESPONDENT'S CASE:</u>** The Respondent consulted counsel and waived her right to submit statements in her behalf.</u>

5. <u>CHARACTERIZATION OF SERVICE</u>: If you determine there are sufficient grounds to discharge the Respondent, you must decide whether she should be retained or discharged. The mental health diagnosis warrants her discharge. Pursuant to AFI 36-3208, paragraph 5.11.1, an airman found to have a mental disorder **can** be discharged if there is a mental health report indicating the disorder significantly interferes with continued military service. Based upon the information contained in the file, the Respondent's ability to adapt and function in the military is indeed significantly impaired by her Adjustment Disorder and Schizoid Personality Disorder. It is evident from the report the Respondent's continued service will be significantly impaired by

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the severity of her disorders. If you choose to separate the Respondent, you must characterizeher service as honorable. No other service characterization is authorized. Probation and rehabilitation is authorized in this case in accordance with AFI 36-3208, Chapter 7. However, given the mental health report, it does not appear likely she would be able to adapt to and satisfactorily perform in the military.

6. **<u>OPTIONS</u>**: As the Separation Authority you may:

a. Discharge the Respondent with an honorable service characterization, with or without probation and rehabilitation; or

b. Retain the Respondent.

7. <u>**RECOMMENDATION:**</u> I recommend you discharge the Respondent with an honorable service characterization, without probation and rehabilitation. If you elect any of the other options, please return the package **to** this office. If you have any questions, please call Capt **10.100** at 228-5242.

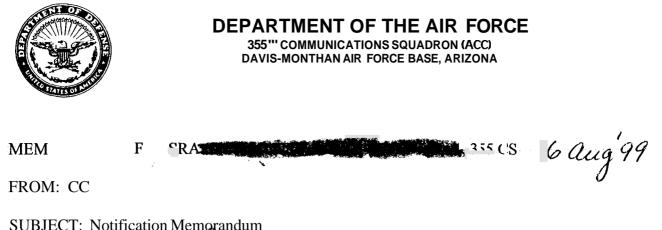
Lt Col, USAF Staff Judge Advocate

Attachment: Case File

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1. I am recommending your discharge from the United States Air Force for conditions that interfere with military service, specifically mental disorders. The authority for this action is AFPD 36-32 and AFI 36-3208, paragraph 5.1 1.1. If my recommendation is approved, your service will be characterized as honorable.

2. My reason for this action is that on or about 1 Jun 99, you were diagnosed with an Adjustment Disorder with Mixed Anxiety and Depressed Mood and a Schizoid Personality Disorder that significantly impair your ability to function effectively in the military.

3. Copies of the documents to be forwarded to the separation authority in support of this recommendation are attached. The commander exercising SPCM jurisdiction or a higher authority will decide whether you will be discharged or retained in the Air Force and, if you are discharged, how your service will be characterized. If you are discharged, you will be ineligible for reenlistment in the Air Force and will probably be denied enlistment in any component of the armed forces and any special pay, bonus, or education assistance funds may be subject to recoupment.

4. You have the right to consult counsel. Military legal counsel, Capt building 3510, 3rd floor, west end, extension 5664, has been obtained to assist you. An appointment has been scheduled for you to consult him on $\underline{g_2}$ at \underline{OBOD} hours. In addition to military counsel, you have the right to employ civilian counsel at your own expense.

5. You have the right to submit statements in your own behalf. Any statements you want the separation authority to consider must reach me by <u>11/2ug</u> 49 unless you request and receive an extension for good cause shown. I will send them to the separation authority.

6. If you fail to consult counsel or to submit statements in your own behalf, your failure will constitute a waiver of your right to do so.

7. You have been scheduled for a medical examination. You must report to the Physical Exams Office of the Aeromedical Facility, Bldg 412, Rm 3 at ______ on ______ for the examination. Medical appt completed on 3 aug 0730

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8. You have been scheduled for an initial outprocessing briefing. You must report to the Military Personnel Flight (MPF), Separations Element, Bldg 3200, Rm 14, at $\underline{/////nrs}$ on $\underline{/////////nrs}$ for the outprocessing briefing.

9. Any personal information you furnish in rebuttal is covered by the Privacy Act of 1974. A copy of AFI 36-3208, is available for your use at the Area Defense Counsel's office, bldg 3510.

IO. Execute the attached acknowledgment and return it to me immediately.

Mai. USAF Commander

Attachments: 1. Medical Statement, 9 Jun 99 2. Airman's Receipt of Notification Letter

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