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Previous edition will be used.

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### AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD DECISIONAL RATIONALE

FD2002-0485

**GENERAL:** The applicant appeals to change the reason and authority for the discharge, and to change her reenlistment code.

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, and change of reenlistment code 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 disqualify her. Applicant contends the discharge was improper because she believes she was incorrectly diagnosed, and implies that the record does not support the reason for discharge. Records review disclosed member was a patient of the Mental Health Clinic from as early as November 30, 2000, through the time of her discharge, about a 7-month period, but particularly more frequently during the last 4 months of her enlistment. She was hospitalized twice for suicidal gestures, the second time for drug overdose of two prescription medications, and she told her care providers she would "rather die than stay in the Air Force." Before the discharge was recommended, it was determined by the Air Force Commander of the Behavioral Health Flight at member's duty location that member had an adjustment disorder with disturbance of emotion and conduct, and a personality disorder not otherwise specified (borderline and dependent). The Separation Authority at the time requested additional testing and evaluation of member before rendering a final decision. Additional examination and diagnosis of member by the Chief of the Life Skill Support Center, a Clinical Psychologist, reconfirmed the earlier diagnoses and the discharge went forward. 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. Her commander described her behavior as disruptive, borderline insubordinate, confrontational, and placing an unsupportable burden on the leadership of the unit, as well as a negative impact on her flight. The Board could not find an impropriety or an inequity upon which to base a change in reason or authority for the discharge, or the reenlistment code.

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** 

## 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 HON Disch fr USAF 16 Jul 01 UP AFI 36-3208, para 5.11.1 (Personality Disorder). Appeals for RE Code Change and to Change the Reason and Authority for Discharge.

#### 2. BACKGROUND:

a. DOB: 26 Aug 77. Enlmt Age: 19 2/12. Disch Age: 23 10/12. Educ: HS DIPL. AFQT: N/A. A-85, E-76, G-66, M-60. PAFSC: 1W051 - Weather Analyst Journeyman. DAS: 13 Sep 99.

b. Prior Sv: (1) AFRes 20 Nov 96 - 18 Feb 97 (2 months 29 days) (Inactive).

#### SERVICE UNDER REVIEW:

a. Enlisted as AB 19 Feb 97 for 4 yrs. Ext: 14 Jul 99 for 19 months. Svd: 4 Yrs 4 Mos 28 Das, all AMS.

b. Grade Status: SRA - 19 Feb 00

A1C - 19 Jun 98

AMN - 19 Aug 97

- c. Time Lost: None.
- d. Art 15's: None.
- e. Additional: None.
- f. CM: None.
- g. Record of SV: 19 Feb 97 18 Oct 98 Fort Lewis AIN 5 (Initial)

19 Oct 98 - 04 Jul 99 Fort Lewis AIN 4 (CRO)

05 Jul 99 - 04 Jul 00 Wheeler AA 5 (Annual)

05 Jul 00 - 07 May 01 Wheeler AA 4 (CRO)

#### (Discharged from Hickam AFB)

- h. Awards & Decs: AFLSAR, AFTR, NATOM, AFOUA, AFGCM, AFOSLTR, AFSM, AFEM.
- Stmt of Sv: TMS: (4) Yrs (7) Mos (27) Das
  TAMS: (4) Yrs (4) Mos (28) Das
- 4. BASIS ADVANCED FOR REVIEW: Appln (DD Fm 293) dtd 4 Nov 02. (Change RE Code and Reason and Authority for Discharge)

Issue 1: I believe my discharge to be based upon an isolated issue that occurred after over 4 years of outstanding service with no adverse action. After being discharged my life style and arrangements have not been complicated by any type of personality disorder and I believe that I was incorrectly diagnosed. The separation code and reentry code are the parts of my discharge I am contesting.

ATCH None.

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FD2002-0485



# DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE PACIFIC AIR FORCES

11 Jul 01

MEMORANDUM FOR SRA	] 25 ASOS
FROM: 25 ASOS/CC	
SUBJECT: Notification Memorandum - Addendum	

- 1. On 5 Jul 01, I notified you that I am recommending to the separation authority your discharge from the United States Air Force for mental conditions that interfere with military service. The authority for this action is AFPD 36-32, *Military Retirements and Separations*, and AFI 36-3208, *Administrative Separation of Airmen*, paragraph 5.11.1. I notified you that if my discharge recommendation is approved, your service will be characterized as Honorable.
- 2. Since I initially notified you, additional information has been obtained that supports your discharge for mental conditions that interfere with military service.
- a. On or about 4 Jun 01, you admitted yourself to the Tripler Army Medical Center (AMC) Emergency Room, complaining that you ingested all of your prescription medicine at once. Attached are medical records from Tripler AMC documenting the treatment and care you received on 4 Jun 01.
- b. Over the past two months, your behavior has declined to the point that, at times, you have been borderline insubordinate. There has been no indication that this behavior pattern will change in the foreseeable future. Your alleged attempted suicide and confrontational manner in recent weeks has had a negative impact on your flight and your repeated threats of suicide have placed an almost unsupportable burden on the leadership of your unit. I have documented these observations in a Memorandum for Record (MFR), dated 3 Jul 01, which is attached.
- 3. Copies of the documents to be forwarded to the separation authority in support of this recommendation are attached. In spite of the additional information listed above, I am continuing to recommend your discharge for mental conditions that interfere with military service, and that you receive an Honorable discharge. The commander exercising SPCM jurisdiction or higher authority will decide whether you will be discharged or retained in the Air Force. 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.
- 4. You have the right to consult counsel. Military legal counsel, Capt , Area Defense Counsel, Building 1113, 449-2149, has been obtained to assist you. An appointment has been scheduled for you to consult him on 12 Jul 01 at 0900 hours. You may consult civilian counsel at your own expense.

PD 2002-0485

- 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 16 Jul 01 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. 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 through your Commander's Support Staff.

8. Execute the attached	acknowledgment and return it to me immediately.	
	Commander, 25 ASOS	
2 Attachments:		
1. Medical Records from	n Tripler AMC (8 pages)	
2. MFR, SrA	Duty Performance, 3 Jul 01	

FD2002-0485



# DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE PACIFIC AIR FORCES

7 Jun 01 MEMORANDUM FOR SRA FROM: 25 ASOS/CC SUBJECT: Notification Memorandum 1. I am recommending your discharge from the United States Air Force for mental conditions that interfere with military service. The authority for this action is AFPD 36-32, Military Retirements and Separations, and AFI 36-3208, Administrative Separation of Airmen, paragraph 5.11.1. If my discharge recommendation is approved, your service will be characterized as Honorable. 2. My reason for this action is that on or about 16 May 01, Lt Col Commander, Behavioral Health Flight, diagnosed you as having the following disorders, as defined by the Diagnostic Statistical Manual (DSM), 4th Ed: an Axis I adjustment disorder which causes disturbance of emotion and conduct; and an Axis II unspecified personality disorder. Lt Col; in his 16 May 01 memorandum to me, states that he believes your discharge is in the best interest of the Air Force. 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 higher authority will decide whether you will be discharged or retained in the Air Force. 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. 4. You have the right to consult counsel. Military legal counsel, Capt Counsel, Building 1113, 449-2149, has been obtained to assist you. An appointment has been scheduled for you to consult him on 8 Jun 01 at 1030 hours. You may consult civilian counsel at your own expense.

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.

extension for good cause shown. I will send them to the separation authority.

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 12 Jun 01 unless you request and receive an

- 7. You have been scheduled for a medical examination. You will report to Flight Medicine at the 15th Medical Group on 8 Jun 01 at 0845 hours for examination.
- 8. It is mandatory that you contact Separations, located in the Military Personnel Flight, at

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449-2276, ext. 149 or 141, within 24 hours of receipt of this letter to set up an initial separations appointment. You are required to report to this appointment in uniform.

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 through your Commander's Support Staff.

10. Execute the attached	Execute the attached acknowledgment and return it to me immediately.				
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2 Attachments:

- 1. Airman's Receipt of Notification Memorandum
- 2. Mental Health Evaluation, 4 June 01

FD 2002-0485

#### **MEMORANDUM FOR 25 ASOS/CC**

7 Jun 01

SUBJECT: Receipt of Notification Memorandum

- 1. I received the Notification Memorandum, dated 7 Jun 01, at 1600 hours on 57 Jun 01, informing me of processing according to AFPD 36-32, Military Retirements And Separations and AFI 36-3208, Administrative Separation of Airmen, for conditions that interfere with military service, specifically mental disorders, paragraph 5.11.1.
- 2. I understand that I have the right to:
  - a. Consult counsel.
  - b. Submit statements in my own behalf.
  - c. Waive either of the above rights.
- 3. I acknowledge that:
- a. I have received copies of the documents to be forwarded to the separation authority in support of the recommendation for my discharge.
  - b. I have been given an appointment to consult military counsel.
- 4. I understand that:
  - a. This action may result in my discharge from the Air Force with an Honorable discharge.
  - b. My failure to consult counsel or submit statements will constitute a waiver of my right to do so.
  - c. I must make an initial separation appointment within 24 hours of receipt of this letter.
  - d. I must attend the physical exam appointment made for me.
- 5. I understand that the Air Force is entitled to recoup a portion of education assistance, special pay, or bonus money which I received, if any, if I separate before completing the period of active duty I agreed to serve. I understand this recoupment applies regardless whether I voluntarily separate or I am involuntarily discharged for misconduct. I further understand: (1) Recoupment will apply regardless of the basis for involuntary discharge, if the reason for separation is not homosexual conduct (in which case, additional rules apply); (2) The recoupment in all cases is an amount that bears the same ratio to the total amount or cost provided to me, as the unserved portion of active duty bears to the total period of active duty I agreed to serve; (3) That if I dispute that I am indebted for educational assistance, a board or other authority will make findings and recommendations concerning the validity of the indebtedness.

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