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		ADDITIONAL EXHIBITS SUBMITTED AT TIME OF PERSONAL APPEARANCE								
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# AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD DECISIONAL RATIONALE

CASE NUMBER

FD-2004-00483

**GENERAL:** The applicant appeals for upgrade of discharge to honorable.

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

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

FINDINGS: Upgrade of discharge is denied.

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

ISSUE: Applicant contends discharge was inequitable because she was denied the right to have probation and rehabilitation. She also contends that she had incompetent counsel. The records indicated the applicant received an Article 15, four Letters of Reprimand, three Letters of Counseling, four Records of Individual Counseling, four Verbal Counseling's, and two Memorandums for Record for various acts of misconduct to include financial irresponsibility, being late for appointments and to work, missing appointments, not wearing the proper uniform, dereliction of duty, and lack of responsibility concerning a Family Care Plan. The DRB opined that through these administrative actions, the applicant had ample opportunities to change her negative behavior. Each of these 18 actions constitutes a rehabilitation action. The applicant did not complain about her appointed military counsel during her discharge, but makes a claim now that her counsel was ineffective. This issue is without merit. The applicant also states that she was diagnosed with major depressive disorder, a panic disorder, and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. However, this diagnosis was given to her in December of 2002, six years after she left the Air Force. The Board concluded the misconduct was a significant departure from conduct expected of all military members. The characterization of the discharge received by the applicant was found to be appropriate.

**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 for upgrade of 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 AMN) (HGH A1C)

1. MATTER UNDER REVIEW: Appl rec'd a GEN Disch fr McGuire AFB, NJ on 22 Feb 96 UP AFI 36-3208, para 5.49 (Misconduct - Minor Disciplinary Infractions). Appeals for Honorable Discharge.

#### 2. BACKGROUND:

a. DOB: 25 Aug 75. Enlmt Age: 17 6/12. Disch Age: 20 5/12. Educ: HS DIPL. AFQT: N/A. A-70, E-39, G-37, M-27. PAFSC: 3S031 - Personnel Apprentice. DAS: 18 Feb 94.

b. Prior Sv: (1) AFRes 17 Mar 93 - 22 Sep 93 (6 months 6 days) (Inactive).

#### 3. SERVICE UNDER REVIEW:

- a. Enlisted as AB 23 Sep 93 for 4 yrs. Svd: 2 Yrs 5 Mo 0 Das, all AMS.
- Grade Status: Amn 23 Jan 96 (Art 15, 23 Jan 96)
   AlC 23 Jan 95
   Amn 23 Mar 94
- c. Time Lost: None.
- d. Art 15's: (1) 23 Jan 96, McGuire AFB, NJ Article 86. You, did, on or about 16 Jan 96, without authority, fail to go at the time prescribed to building 2916, at 0700 hours for your scheduled CDC review session. Article 86. You, did, on or about 18 Jan 96, without authority, fail to go at the time prescribed to building 2916, at 0700 hours, the official start of your duty day. Reduction to Airman. (Appeal/Denied) (No mitigation)
- e. Additional: VBC, 19 JAN 96 Late for appointment.

VBC, 18 JAN 96 - Not wearing proper uniform.

LOR, 16 JAN 96 - Failure to follow instructions.

LOR, 08 JAN 96 - Dereliction of duty.

LOC, 18 DEC 95 - Late for duty.

LOR, 18 DEC 95 - Late for duty.

RIC, 27 NOV 95 - Missing mandatory appointment.

RIC, 17 NOV 95 - Dereliction of duty.

LOC, 18 SEP 95 - Negligence of assigned duties.

VBC, 24 AUG 95 - Financial irresponsibility.

LOC, 11 SEP 95 - Financial irresponsibility.

LOR, 14 JUN 95 - Failure to follow instructions.

MFR, 18 APR 95 - Lack of responsibility concerning a Family Care Program.

RIC, 30 NOV 94 - Late for work. RIC, 23 SEP 94 - Late for work.

VBC, 30 JUN 94 - Financial irresponsibility.

- f. CM: None.
- g. Record of SV: 23 Sep 93 22 May 95 McGuire AFB 2 (Initial)REF 23 May 95 26 Sep 95 McGuire AFB 2 (CRO)REF
- h. Awards & Decs: NDSM, AFTR.
- i. Stmt of Sv: TMS: (2) Yrs (11) Mos (6) Das TAMS: (2) Yrs (5) Mos (0) Das
- 4. BASIS ADVANCED FOR REVIEW: Appln (DD Fm 293) dtd 28 Nov 04. (Change Discharge to Honorable)

ISSUES ATTACHED TO BRIEF.

#### ATCH

- 1. Applicant's Issues.
- 2. Judge Advocate Review.
- 3. Dependent Care Certification.
- 4. Response to Letter of Reprimand, 19 Jun 95.
- 5. DD Form 214.
- 6. State of Georgia Department of Corrections Performance Management Planning Form.
- 7. Letter of Reprimand.
- 8. Certificate of Training.
- 9. Certificate of Achievement.
- 10. Certificate of Training.
- 11. Performance Appraisal.
- 12. Three Character References.
- 13. Certificate of Appreciation.
- 14. Certificate of Training.
- 15. College Transcript.
- 16. Two Certificates of Appreciation.
- 17. College Transcript.
- 18. Honor Roll Certificate.
- 19. Attendance Certificate.
- 20. Honor Roll Certificate.
- 21. Two Certificates of Achievement.
- 22. Report of Academic Skills.

# APPLICATION FOR THE REVIEW OF DISCHARGE FROM THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES

(Please read instructions on Pages 3 and 4 BEFORE completing this application.)

Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0004 Expires Aug 31, 2006

The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to everage 30 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other search of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Department of Defense, Executive Services and Communications Directorate (0704-0004). Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid CMB control number. PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR FORM TO THE ABOVE ORGANIZATION. RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO THE APPROPRIATE ADDRESS ON

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November 28, 2004

Air Force Review Boards Agency SAF/MRBR 550 – C Street West, Suite 40 Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4742

Dear Discharge Review Board,

I am asking that you please consider my request for a discharge upgrade. I will try and explain the situation that I was in at the time of my enlistment. Also, I will state the reasons why I feel that my discharge was unjust.

I feel that I was unfairly denied the right to have Probation & Rehabilitation according to Chapter 7 of AFI 36-3208 paragraph 7.2.6 and also paragraph 7.4. I understand that the Control Roster and UIF are designed to be rehabilitative tools but in my case they were not used as a rehabilitative tools. I wasn't on the UIF and Control Roster long enough to see if it would've been an effective rehabilitative tool for me. In most cases LOC's and LOR's can promote change depending on the individual's situation. In my case LOC's and LOR's could not physically help or change my situation. According to the UCMJ I had a right to competent counsel. The officer that was assigned to me as my Area Defense Counsel (ADC) and did not provide me with all the pertinent information needed to defend my case. I feel that she should have suggested discharge under parenthood. I believe that the could have done more than what she did. When I look at the statement used to defend my case I get so disappointed because these are the things that I was told to write by my ADC. It doesn't defend or explain anything that I was going through. It was totally irrelevant to my discharge package. was so preoccupied with other things she really didn't spend the sufficient time on my case that was needed. If I could have done my Rebuttal differently it would go something like this:

I have been notified that I am being recommended for a general discharge under AFPD 36-32 and AFI 36-3208, paragraph 5.49, for Minor Disciplinary Infractions. I feel that the best REASON for discharge should be AFI 36-32 and AFI 36-3208 Paragraph 5.9 for Parenthood/Dependents Care Responsibilities

Airmen may be discharged under this provision if because of parental responsibilities they fail to meet their military obligations.

5.9.2.1 - Unable to perform their duties satisfactorily

5.9.2.2 - Unavailable for worldwide assignment or deployment.

I never wanted my career to end the way it did but I didn't foresee the issues that I would encounter being a mom. I know that there are plenty of single moms in the world but I didn't know how to be a mom and have a career. My parents weren't there for me so I didn't know exactly what motherhood was all about.

I applied for a discharge under Miscellaneous Reasons according to AFI 36 –3208 Paragraph 3.15 but it was denied and I never received an explanation as to why it was denied. Please consider the following in my defense. When I joined the Air Force I did not have any children. Due to my irresponsibility I now have an 11-month-old son. Being a single parent is very difficult for me. I am trying the best that I can to handle my situation but it is now affecting my job performance. Not only is being a single parent affecting my job performance but I am very depressed and under a lot of unexplained stress. I don't want to have to go through life with a negative discharge hanging over my head. I do realize that I am not be able to be retained; however, I request that I receive and Honorable Discharge with the Narrative Reason being Parenthood. An Honorable Discharge will allow me the opportunity to take advantage of the educational benefits that I have invested in.

I believe that if I was awarded P& R I could've been a productive member of the United States Air Force. Under AFI 36-3208 1 Mar 2000 Chapter 3 paragraph 3.4. Under this paragraph Military members are not eligible for P & R if the basis for discharge is:

- Failure to Comply
- Fraudulent Entry
- Entry Level Performance
- Homosexuality
- In the Interest of National Security
- Drug Abuse

Misconduct is not listed anywhere in the above list.

In the following paragraphs I will list my explanation of issues that I experienced while on Active Duty. I broke my explanation down in sequence with the alphabetical letters in my discharge package. My response to letter(s):

# **A** -

On 30 June 94 I had lent my father some money because he was in a financial emergency. When my father repaid me he did it in the form of a check. I wrote my check to pay my DPP bill as I often did not thinking that his check was going to bounce. Had I known his check was going to bounce I would have never done that.

# B, C, L, M, P-

The reason I was late for work was because I did not have a vehicle.

### D, E, K, O -

I'll admit that I didn't have an adequate Family Care Plan on 18 Apr 95. As of 9 May 95 I did have an adequate Family Care Plan in place. Attached is a copy of my AF Form 357 Dependent Care Certification. The day that I took my son to work I actually

had that day scheduled off and I went to give my supervisor the files that were needed. As far as 16 Nov 95 I missed my dental appointment because my son was very sick I tried to make other arrangements for him but because he was so sick nobody would take him because they didn't want their other children to catch what he had. I didn't miss the appointment intentionally but I had no other choice.

#### F-

I am resubmitting my original response to the Letter of Reprimand that I received. If and I would have told me that I would've been granted an extension I would've never have gone to the MPF to do my rebuttal. When Note called over to the office she never said that I had to go home. I spoke to two people in supervision that morning and neither one of them said I had to go and that I would be granted an extension. I had never had a problem with being on quarters before.

#### O and R-

18 Jan 96 I was late because I was in my office working. I informed my supervisor that it was time for me to go to my appointment and she refused to let me leave the office knowing that I had to meet the Commander. I figured that I was already in enough trouble and I didn't need to be in anymore trouble. By the time was ready to go to the Commanders office we were already late and I left my service coat in the office. I knew that my future was in the balance but I was overwhelmed with thoughts going through my mind. I did try to explain what happened to the Commander and the 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. but they didn't want to hear the explanation and I didn't expect her to speak up at this point.

## H and I-

In response to my financial issues in theses two instances let me explain how this happened. When I found out that I was pregnant I had to move out of the dorm. There was no base housing available so I had to move out. The apartment that I moved into was twenty minutes away from the base and I still had no vehicle and no driver's license. While I was living in the apartment I was able to manage my finances. I went to American General Finance because I needed money to put down on a car or either purchase one out right.

Before I had the chance to get the car I spent the money taking taxi cabs everywhere I needed to go. It was pushed for the base housing office to give me base housing. When I moved into base housing I fell behind in my bills because I wasn't making the extra money. I expressed my issues and concerns to my supervisor and they both said that they understood my situation concerning my finances but they felt if I stayed in base housing it would be the best thing for me. Being that I was so overwhelmed with what I was going through I scheduled my own appointments to the Family Support Center to get help for my situation. When my chain of command did intervene it was not because they genuinely was concerned and wanted to help but it was to cover them so they can say that they tried to remedy my situation.

## G and J-

became my supervisor I can say that she worked with me and she did try to help me. She

FV2004-00483

had a lot of damage control to do. When they saw that I was trainable they made it impossible for and myself to work in that office. It wasn't soon after that left. When I got my EPR I received a 3. I can honestly say that I had personally did not like me. As far as the issue on 13 Dec 95 earned that 3. I was just preoccupied with personal issues that I had going on and I really didn't know how to deal with what I was feeling. Before I fell under her supervision I knew nothing about the MPF except for the functions of the records section. I had gone to for help on several occasions for help with my CDC's she would send me to other Amn for help. In my heart I knew that and and a were prejudiced. They and myself in a prejudiced manner by the comments that they would make. And also by the underhanded actions they took against us. and I went to Social Actions and we filed a complaint against of the way that we were being treated. When they found out that we filed a complaint against them their actions against us just became worse.

After the birth of my son I became very stressed out. It became hard for me to concentrate. I was always sad and depressed. I had trouble focusing; remembering and I had difficulties in making decisions. I know all of this happened as a result of Post-Partum Depression. I went to Mental Health for assistance but they did nothing to help me. I was basically told there was nothing was wrong with me. In December of 2002 I went see a Psychologist/Psychiatrist again. I saw three different doctors and they all gave me the same diagnosis. The diagnosis that I received was:

- Major Depressive Disorder
- Panic Disorder W/O Agoraphobia (Panic attacks ≥ I time daily lasting 5 10 minutes)
- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

These were the same issues that I was experiencing while on Active Duty and I still experience them to this day. I feel that if my symptoms were properly diagnosed by Mental Health it probably would have helped me to deal with the issues that I was going through at the time. As well as to understand what I was going through. The following medications were prescribed to help me deal with the diagnosis listed above Sonata, Gabitril, and Lexapro. The Doctors that diagnosed my issues are MD., MD., Ph.D. (American Board Diplomate in Psychiatry) and MSW, ACSW. If more information on this issue is needed it will be supplied upon request.

#### CDC Failure:

I was stressed out. I was still dealing with being depressed and being overwhelmed with everything that was going on. I am not a person that test well anyway. I always panic before I take a test. I knew that I wasn't really ready for the test but I did try my best. I know that I didn't fail by much. I know that if I were to take the CDC's now I would pass. By me going to school I've learned a lot of test taking techniques that works for me.

PD7004-00483

In conclusion, I feel that I could have been a productive member of the USAF. There is not a day that goes by that I don't think of the achievements that I could've made had I been afforded the opportunity to redeem myself. Now that I am older and mature I look back at a lot of things that I could've done differently. Since my discharge from the Air Force I have tried to do the best that I can to care of me and my family. I have worked for the United States Postal Service for four years, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan for two years. I'm currently employed by the Georgia Department of Corrections as a Corrections Officer. Being employed by the department of corrections shows that I have been a model citizen since my discharge. Everyday that I look at my DD214 I don't know what hurts me more the fact I've been discharged unfairly or the fact that I was humiliated when the stripes on my shirt was cut off with a pair of scissors by my Commander and Supervisor. The past eight years have not been easy for me. I would just like to see my DD214 with an Honorable Discharge on it and also a Narrative Reason that states Parenthood. I am submitting a few documents for your viewing. I hope that the documents provided will help you to see some of my accomplishments and the accomplishments of my children. Even though I'm still a single parent I've learned how to manage being a single mom as well as someone's employee. I would also like to receive my Honorable Discharge so that I can take some training classes that are offered by the Department of Corrections. If you please grant me my discharge I can use my benefits to further my career and to further provide for my children.

I appreciate you taking the time to review my case. I hope and pray that you find favor with my case and grant my request for a discharge upgrade from General (Under Honorable Conditions) to Honorable.





# DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE 305TH AIR MOBILITY WING (AMC)

2 Feb 96

# MEMORANDUM FOR

FROM: 305 MSS/CC

SUBJECT: Notification Memorandum

1. I am recommending your discharge from the United States Air Force for minor disciplinary infractions. The authority for this action is AFPD 36-32 and AFI 36-3208, paragraph 5.49. If my recommendation is approved, your service will be characterized as general under honorable conditions.

# 2. My reasons for this action are:

- (a) On or about 30 Jun 94, you uttered a check to the Army and Air Force Exchange Service in the amount of \$65.00 that was returned for nonsufficient funds. For this, you were verbally counseled.
- (b) On or about 30 Nov 94, you were not present for duty at the prescribed time. For this, you received a Letter of Counseling.
- (c) On or about 9 Dec 94 and 12 Dec 94, you were not present for duty at the prescribed time. For this, you received a Letter of Counseling.
- (d) On or about 18 Apr 95, you were found not to have an adequate family care plan on file as required by AFI 36-2908. For this, you were verbally counseled.
- (e) On or about 15 May 95, you were found not to have an adequate family care plan on file as required by AFI 36-2908. For this, you were verbally reprimanded and prohibited from going on leave or TDY.
- (f) On or about 12 Jun 95, you were found in your duty section after being ordered to quarters due to illness. For this, you received a Letter or Reprimand.
- (g) From on or about 28 Aug 95-11 Sep 95, you engaged in a pattern on negligence in the performance of your assigned duties. For this, you received a Letter of Counseling.
- (h) On or about 23 Aug 95, the First Sergeant received a "past due" notice from your AAFES Deferred Payment Plan, dated 10 Aug 95. For this, you were verbally counseled.
- (i) On 29 Aug 95, the First Sergeant received a complaint from American General Finance that you were two months delinquent on an outstanding loan through that institution. For this, you received a Letter of Counseling.

- (j) On or about 17 Nov 95, you engaged in a pattern of negligence in the performance of your assigned duties. For this, you received a Letter of Counseling.
- (k) On or about 27 Nov 95, you were found not to have an adequate family care plan in place as required by AFI 36-2908. For this, you received a Letter of Counseling.
- (I) On or about 14 Dec 95, you were not present for duty at the prescribed time. For this, you received a Letter of Counseling.
- (m) On or about 15 Dec 95, you were not present for duty at the prescribed time. For this, you received a Letter of Reprimand.
- (n) On or about 8 Jan 96, you engaged in a pattern of negligence in the performance of your assigned duties. For this, you received a Letter of Reprimand.
- (o) On or about 12 Jan 96, you were found not to have an adequate family care plan in place as required by AFI 36-2908. This was evident by you bringing your child to work due to no available day care. For this, you received a Letter or Reprimand, were placed on the Control Roster and had an Unfavorable Information File (UIF) established.
- (p) On or about 16 Jan 96 and 18 Jan 96, you failed to report to your place of duty at the prescribed time. For this, you received punishment according to Article 15, UCMJ consisting of a reduction to your current grade of Airman.
- (q) On or about 18 Jan 96, you were late in reporting to a 1545 appointment with the First Sergeant to preview the procedures for a 1600 Article 15 appointment with the commander. This resulted in your being late for the 1600 appointment with the commander. For this, you were verbally reprimanded.
- (r) On or about 18 Jan 96, you failed to report for an Article 15 appointment with the commander in service dress, as directed. For this, you were verbally reprimanded by the commander.

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.

- 3. You have the right to consult counsel. Military legal counsel has been obtained to assist you. I have made an appointment for you to consult at at building 2906 on 6 Feb 96 at 0900. You may consult civilian counsel at your own expense.
- 4. You have the right to submit statements in your behalf. Any statements you want the separation authority to consider must reach me by 7 Feb 96 unless you request and receive an extension for good cause shown. I will send them to the separation authority.
- 5. If you fail to consult counsel or to submit matters in your own behalf, your failure will constitute a waiver of your right to do so.
- 6. You have been scheduled for a medical examination. You must report to Walson Air Force Hospital on Fort Dix at 0745 on 5 Feb 96 for the examination.

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7. Any personal information you furnish in your rebuttal is covered by the Privacy Act of 1974. A copy of

AFI 36-3208, is available for your use in the squadron orderly room.



Commander

#### 19 Attachments

- 1. AAFES Dishonored Check Notification, 9 Aug 94
- 2. Letter of Counseling, 30 Nov 94
- 3. Letter of Counseling, 13 Dec 94
- 4. Memo for the Record, 18 Apr 95
- 5. Letter of Notification, 15 May 95
- 6. Letter of Reprimand, 14 Jun 95
- 7. Delinquent AAFES DPP Notice, 10 Aug 95
- 8. Letter of Counseling, 11 Sep 95
- 9. Letter of Counseling, 18 Sep 95
- 10. Letter of Counseling, 17 Nov 95
- 11. Letter of Counseling, 27 Nov 95
- 12. Letter of Counseling, 18 Dec 95
- 13. Letter of Counseling, 18 Dec 95
- 14. Letter of Reprimand, 8 Jan 96
- 15. Letter of Reprimand, 16 Jan 96
- 16. AF Form 3070, Record of Nonjudicial Punishment Proceedings, 18 Jan 96
- 17. Memo for the Record, 18 Jan 96
- 18. Memo for the Record, 19 Jan 96
- 19. Enlisted Performance Reports (2)