

AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD HEARING RECORD

NAME OF SERVICE MEMBER (LAST, FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL)	GRADE SRA	AFSN/SSAN
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TYPE GEN	PERSONAL APPEARANCE	X	RECORD REVIEW
COUNSEL		ADDRESS AND OR ORGANIZATION OF COUNSEL	
YES	No		
	X		

MEMBER SITTING	VOTE OF THE BOARD				
	HON	GEN	UOTHC	OTHER	DENY
					X
					X *
					X
					X*
					X*

ISSUES A92.21	INDEX NUMBER A69.00	EXHIBITS SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD		
		1	ORDER APPOINTING THE BOARD	
		2	APPLICATION FOR REVIEW OF DISCHARGE	
		3	LETTER OF NOTIFICATION	
		4	BRIEF OF PERSONNEL FILE	
			COUNSEL'S RELEASE TO THE BOARD	
			ADDITIONAL EXHIBITS SUBMITTED AT TIME OF PERSONAL APPEARANCE	
			TAPE RECORDING OF PERSONAL APPEARANCE	
HEARING DATE 06 Dec 2005	CASE NUMBER FD-2005-00182			

APPLICANT'S ISSUE AND THE BOARD'S DECISIONAL RATIONAL ARE DISCUSSED ON THE ATTACHED AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD DECISIONAL RATIONALE

Case heard at Washington, D.C.

* Send signal

Advise applicant of the decision of the Board, the right to a personal appearance with/without counsel, and the right to submit an application to the AFBCMR.

Names and votes will be made available to the applicant at the applicant's request.

SIGNATURE OF RECORDER *[Signature]*

SIGNATURE OF BOARD PRESIDENT *[Signature]*

INDORSEMENT **DATE: 12/6/2005**

TO:
SAF/MRBR
550 C STREET WEST, SUITE 40
RANDOLPH AFB, TX 78150-4742

FROM:
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE PERSONNEL COUNCIL
AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD
1535 COMMAND DR, EE WING, 3RD FLOOR
ANDREWS AFB, MD 20762-7002

AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD DECISIONAL RATIONALE

CASE NUMBER

FD-2005-00182

GENERAL: The applicant appeals for upgrade of discharge to honorable, to change the reason and authority for the discharge, and to change the reenlistment code.

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, change of reason and authority for discharge, and change of reenlistment code are 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: The applicant stated that he would like to reenter the military. The records indicated the applicant received an Article 15 for alcohol rehabilitation failure. The applicant was unwilling to cooperate, continued to drink, discontinued use of Antabuse, failed to attend Alcoholic Anonymous meetings, and was unwilling to be continued in the rehabilitation program. The DRB opined that the applicant had ample opportunities to change his negative behavior. 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.

The DRB was pleased to see that the applicant was doing well post service and has a good job. However, the applicant failed to address his alcohol abuse issue. No inequity or impropriety in his discharge was found in the course of the DRB hearing.

If he can provide additional documented information to substantiate an issue, the applicant should consider exercising his right to make a personal appearance before the Board. If he should choose to exercise his right to a personal appearance hearing, the applicant should be prepared to provide the DRB with factual evidence of the inequity and any post-service accomplishments documenting successful completion of substance abuse treatment.

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 SRA) (HGH SRA)

1. MATTER UNDER REVIEW: Appl rec'd a GEN Disch fr Laughlin AFB, TX on 30 Jan 97 UP AFI 36-3208, para 5.32.1.2 (Alcohol Rehabilitation Failure). Appeals for Honorable Discharge, and to Change the RE Code, Reason and Authority for Discharge.

2. BACKGROUND:

a. DOB: 27 Nov 73. Enlmt Age: 19 2/12. Disch Age: 22 2/12. Educ: HS DIPL. AFQT: N/A. A-92, E-58, G-72, M-55. PAFSC: 4N031 - Medical Service Apprentice. DAS: 7 Dec 95.

b. Prior Sv: (1) AFRes 20 Feb 93 - 17 Jun 93 (3 months 28 days) (Inactive).

3. SERVICE UNDER REVIEW:

a. Enlisted as A1C 18 Jun 93 for 4 yrs. Svd: 3 Yrs 7 Mo 13 Das, all AMS.

b. Grade Status: SRA - 18 Oct 95

c. Time Lost: None.

d. Art 15's: (1) 22 Apr 96, Ramstein AB, Germany - Article 111. You did, on or about 14 Apr 96, at or near Kisling Memorial Drive, Ramstein AB, Germany, operate a vehicle, to wit: a passenger car, while the alcohol concentration in your breath was 0.10 grams of alcohol per 210 liters of breath or greater, specifically .222 grams of alcohol per 210 liters, as shown by chemical analysis. Suspended reduction to A1C. Forfeiture of \$150.00 pay per month for two months. Forty five days extra duty. (No appeal) (No mitigation)

e. Additional: AF FORM 2731, 5 NOV 96 - SART Program failure.
ECI FORM 9, 18 OCT 96 - Course Examination failure.
AAFES LTR, 17 AUG 96 - Video rental account overdue.
LETTER, 12 APR 96 - Returned check.
LETTER, 12 MAR 96 - Returned check.
LETTER, 28 FEB 96 - Returned check.

f. CM: None.

g. Record of SV: 18 Jun 93 - 17 Feb 95 Laughlin AFB 5 (Initial)
18 Feb 95 - 18 Oct 95 Laughlin AFB 5 (CRO)
09 Oct 95 - 08 Oct 96 Landstuhl RMC 4 (Annual)

h. Awards & Decs: AFAM, NDSM, AFOSLTR, AFTR.

i. Stmt of Sv: TMS: (3) Yrs (11) Mos (11) Das
TAMS: (3) Yrs (7) Mos (13) Das

4. BASIS ADVANCED FOR REVIEW: Appln (DD Fm 293) dtd 27 Apr 05.
(Change Discharge to Honorable, and Change the RE Code, Reason and Authority
for Discharge)

ISSUES ATTACHED TO BRIEF.

ATCH

1. Applicant's Issues with 36 attachments.

14JUN05/ia

FD2005-00182

96 Adobe Street
Del Rio, Texas 78840
(830)-765-6672

April 26, 2005

Reference: Upgrade of DD-214 Discharge Characterization and RE code

Records Review Committee
SAF/MRBR
550-C Street West, Suite 40
Randolph AFB, Texas 78150-4742

Attention: Review Committee

Dear Records Review Committee:

Since The Time of my separation from the Air Force, I have done a great Deal to further myself as a person: mentally, physically and spiritually in my career. My separation from the Air Force did not hold me back in life but provided skills to help me succeed in the civilian world. I love the military and it's way of life; this is why I want to reenlist in the U.S Army.

Since my separation in September 1997, I have done a great deal to further my education in the medical field. After my separation, I was not able to utilize my Montgomery G.I Bill to further my education due to the characterization of my discharge. Determined to not let the mistakes of my past haunt me and to begin to achieve a model level of excellence, I began to continue on the medical foundation that I had begun in the Air Force.

Post Separation, I had a few casual jobs while trying to enroll in a nursing program and continue my medical aspirations. At the end of 1997 and beginning of 1998, I was employed at the Val Verde Renal Care Center as a hemodialysis Technician. This was the first step toward my emergency services goals. I worked there for approximately six months. While there, I preformed renal dialysis on patients with end stage renal disease. While at the Renal Care Center, I obtained my National Registry EMT-Basic certification through Laughlin Air Force Base, filed reciprocity and obtained my Texas EMT-Basic certification. I began to volunteer for Kinney County EMS (KCEMS) working 24 hour shifts on my off days from the renal center. I gained a great deal of emergency medical experience while there but wanted to learn more.

After establishing myself as a reliable volunteer, I was offered and accepted a job as a full time EMT for Kinney County EMS that began in June of 1998. I moved to Brackettville to be more readily available to the community. I continued to gain experience and to grow. During my stay at KCEMS, I desired to continue my education in advanced EMS. I began to take my Texas EMT-Intermediate class and completed it with high marks. I continued my employment with KCEMS honing my new skills that included IV therapy, artificial ventilation through endotracheal intubations and administering some IV medications. Shortly thereafter, I began the Paramedic Completion. Since KCEMS had staffing needs, I worked many hours a day for months either in class, at clinical rotations or pulling 911 calls at Kinney County. I completed and passed graduating in the top-half of my class.

My desire for a more progressive EMS lead me to Val Verde Medical Center EMS in March of 1999. This move enabled me to utilize all the new knowledge and skills I had acquired, moving from a service with 20 calls on average a month to over 300 calls a month. I continued to work part-time for Kinney County while at Val Verde EMS for approximately a year and a half and am willing to there to work if the need should arise now. While at Val Verde EMS, I have worked many different calls from murder, suicides, medical calls, multi vehicle collisions and trauma calls of many different types. I drew upon my

Army Expert Field Medical Badge knowledge while working many shooting and stabbing calls including multi victim accidents having to triage and treat appropriately based on the severity of injuries.

I have become a seasoned Paramedic with over six years of 911 field experience and thousands of emergency calls; I work as a senior Paramedic under the field supervisor to new employees and for medics with less experience than myself. I have obtained my Advance Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) certification, Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) Certification, Basic Trauma Life Support (BTLS) certification, Basic Cardiac Life Support (BCLS) provider and instructor certifications, all of which I must maintain for employment at Val Verde EMS. Each certification encompasses continuing education credit applied to a vast arena of topics to include Airway, Patient Assessment, Trauma, Pediatrics and Geriatrics to name a few. Each one is similar to the Career Development Courses although more focused and more intense. Although the minimum requirement for recertification is 172 hours of CE every four years, I exceeded that figure by almost 200% in order to provide the best care possible for my patients. My continuing education includes all aspects of patient care both in my organization's in-services and out-of-town conferences to better my understanding and be able to provide quality customer service. At the present I continue to grow as a person and obtain new levels of understanding within emergency medicine.

I Believe that all that I have accomplished since my separation shows a willingness and desire to grow in my chosen vocation. Paramedics at the medical center must adhere to strict guidelines including a clean driving record. We are held to high levels of expectations and I serve as a role model in many of these areas. I have provided a copy of my background check that was provided through the Del Rio Police Department showing no infractions. I have taken a total of 5 sick days used in the six plus years at the medical center and have many extra shifts and extracurricular functions. I have established myself as having exceptional skills and am routinely asked for by name for IV starts within the facility.

I enjoy a great many activities: I am an avid skydiver, photographer and rock climber to name a few of my passions. My skydiving consists of 196 fixed wing jumps from altitudes ranging from 3,500 ft to 15,500 ft and I have 2 helicopter jumps from 5,500ft. I began videotaping and editing weddings and skydive photography as a hobby, but have provided services professionally for an Air Force Base Exercise that involved civilian and military agencies alike. I have begun to volunteer with the Cruz Roja (Red Cross) ambulance in Acuna, Mexico, desiring to understand EMS in other countries. From my experiences there, I have gained an appreciation of medicine in a third-world country and have begun to assist them in improving their service. I have helped them repair equipment and am in the process of trying to get them a new ambulance as well as equipment. The area they work receives a great amount of American tourists and I feel as though I am providing a helpful service to the Mexican Nationals and Americans alike by educating their EMS on more current procedures and protocols.

Realizing the stressors of my job, I strive to maintain balance that allows for me to defuse critical calls. My outlets are my physical and social activities. But I have also found sharing my experiences with others provides a renewed energy. I have performed roles within the community providing ambulance tours for the school children while educating the youth on 911 procedures and at-home emergencies. I have also been a judge at a school science fair. I instruct in EMT classes at the local high school and in out recruitment courses. I enjoy seeing the young minds absorb the teachings of EMS so that they too will know what to do when 'stepping up' is required of them.

These life experiences have led me back to the military. My activities for the past year have focused on my preparation for acceptance into the U.S Army as a Special Forces Operator. While employed with Val Verde EMS, I have participated in many military exercises at Laughlin Air Force Base and have acted as the Triage Officer responsible for prioritizing civilian and military casualties. I have acted as a liaison providing emergency patient information to civilian physicians at the receiving medical facility and to active duty Flight Surgeons on scene on patient status. I formerly was a heavy smoker while in the Air Force but have since quit smoking for the past 9 months. I have become a member of the local gymnasium and began to exercise very frequently. I have gained 25lbs of muscle and am in the best shape of my life. I have begun in mixed martial arts classes consisting of Muay Thai

Kickboxing, Gracie Jiu-Jitsu, Western Style Boxing and Karate and am at the Orange Belt level in those, and will be competing in my first Karate tournament in San Antonio next month. My training regimen has improved my physical strength, stamina and agility. It has also provided me a spiritual focus that I have just recently come to appreciate. I have attended a civilian Navy Seal training camp which included rappelling, fixed rope ascensions, hiking sea boat operations in an IBS, many hours of exercises and physical evolutions and a land navigation course. I also attended a land navigation course in Austin at the Texas EMS conference focusing on finding downed victims and extrication of patients needing medical attention. I do all this through dedication and to help me continue to prepare for enlistment to the Army and pursue my goal of becoming a Special Forces Operator.

While in the Air Force, I attended the coveted Army Expert Field Medical Badge (EFMB) at Ft. Hood. I was 1 of only 49 graduates out of an initial class of 200 soldiers that attended and was the only Air Force member there of that 200 soldiers. After my graduation, I received the Sergeant Majors' coin "A Soldiers' Medic" from the Big Red One; this I cherish as one of my great accomplishments. I was eventually stationed in Germany where I worked at Landstuhl Army Regional Medical Center. I served as a cadre at an EFMB class there and was the first ever Air Force evaluator for the EFMB in Europe. Doing this, I proved not to others, but to myself that I can accomplish any mission set in front of me. I long for the sense of accomplishment and camaraderie once again, one that only the military can provide. I aspire to be something more, to continue with my own desire for self-excellence. I relish the opportunity at returning to this way of life as a more experienced, mature person seeking and providing guidance to accomplish each mission.

I want the opportunity to continue to excel in the military and to continue in a family tradition, my father was in Military Intelligence (O5-K) in the Army and has since retired. My brother is currently a Warrant Officer, OH-58Delta Aviator for the Army. With my experiences in life as well as all the skills and knowledge of 11 years of being a Medic, I know that I will bring a positive asset to my unit and will ensure completion of mission objectives working within my team.

I Thank You very much for your time and your consideration. I am at a point in life now where decisions must be made and followed with detail; my demeanor in life has become an obsession of personal growth and will continue with that. Again, Thank You for your consideration of my request; I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Respectfully,



EMT-Paramedic
Val Verde Regional Medical Center



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
86TH AIRLIFT WING (USAFE)

19 DEC 96

MEMORANDUM FOR SR [REDACTED] 86 MDS

FROM: 86 MDS/CC

SUBJECT: Notification Memorandum

1. I am recommending your discharge from the United States Air Force for failure in alcohol abuse treatment due to your unwillingness to cooperate. The authority is AFPD 36-32 and AFI 36-3208, Section F, paragraph 5.32. If my recommendation is approved, your service will be characterized as honorable or general. I am recommending that your service be characterized as general.


2. My reason for this action is that you did, on or about 5 Nov 96, fail to successfully complete the Substance Abuse Reorientation and Treatment (SART) Program by continuing to drink, discontinuing your use of Antabuse, failing to attend AA meetings, and expressing unwillingness to continue in the program. For this failure, you were placed in Track 5 of the SART Program (Atchs 1a & 1b) and this discharge was initiated.

3. Copies of the documents to be forwarded to the separation authority in support of this recommendation are attached. The commander exercising Special Court Martial jurisdiction, or a higher authority, will decide whether you will be discharged or retained in the United States 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 United States Air Force, and any special pay, bonus, or education assistance funds you have received may be subject to recoupment.

4. 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 with Capt. [REDACTED] Area Defense Counsel at Building 2111, DSN 480-2182/2492 on 20 Dec 96 at 1000. You may consult civilian counsel at your own expense. The Area Defense Counsel requests that you stop by their office prior to your appointment to pick-up the Administrative Discharge Booklet.

5. You have the right to submit statements in your behalf. Any statements you want the separation authority to consider must reach me NLT (3 duty days) 27 DEC 96 at 1000 hours 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 submit statements in your 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 in uniform with your medical records and an escort to the base clinic, Physical Exams in Building 2182 on 20 Dec 96 at 0700 for the examination. If you wear glasses, you must bring them with you. If you wear contacts, you must be able to remove them. You must abstain from alcohol 72 hours, fast 12 hours, and abstain from caffeine and nicotine 10 hours prior to your appointment.
8. 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 in the orderly room.



Commander

Attachments:

1. Supporting Documents
 - a. AF Form 2731, SART Program Disposition, dated 5 Nov 96
 - b. Standard Form 600, Chronological Record of Medical Care, dated 5 Nov 96
2. Other Derogatory Information
 - a. ECI Form 9, dated 18 Oct 96
 - b. Career Development Course Failure Assessment Worksheet
 - c. Ltr, AAFES Europe Landstuhl, dated 17 Aug 96
 - d. Memorandum, Denial of Air Force Good Conduct Medal, dated 30 Apr 96
 - e. AF Form 3070, Record of Nonjudicial Punishment Proceedings, dated 22 Apr 96 w/response
 - f. Letters, Returned Checks, dated 12 Apr 96, 12 Mar 96, 28 Feb 96
3. Airman's Receipt of Notification Memorandum