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AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD DECISIONAL RATIONALE

FD-2008-00544

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 and requests that the review be completed based on the available service record.

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

FINDINGS: The Board denies the upgrade of the discharge.

The Board finds the applicant submitted no issues contesting the equity or propriety of the discharge, and after a thorough review of the record, the Board was unable to identify any that would justify a change of discharge.

ISSUE: The applicant submitted no issues of inequity or impropriety but requests upgrade of discharge so he can use his GI Bill. The record indicates the applicant received one Article 15 for underage drinking; four Letters of Reprimand for uniform violations, late for work and underage drinking; one Letter of Counseling for uniform violations, and one Record of Individual Counseling for lateness to work. The DRB opined that through these administrative actions, the applicant had ample opportunities to change his negative behavior. The DRB noted that when the applicant applied for his GI Bill benefits, he signed a statement (DD Form 2366, on March 10, 2003) that he understood he must receive an Honorable discharge to receive future educational entitlements. The Board was sympathetic to the impact the loss of these benefits was having on the applicant, but this is not a matter of inequity or impropriety which would warrant an upgrade. 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 the applicant 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 and determines the discharge should remain unchanged.

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