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AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD DECISIONAL RATIONALE

FD-2009-00011

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

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.

FINDING: The Board denies the upgrade of the discharge and change of reason and authority for discharge.

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:

Issue 1. Applicant contends his discharge characterization should be upgraded and his reason for discharge should be changed because he was immature at the time of his enlistment and made poor choices. He feels he has changed for the better since his discharge and his discharge characterization and reason have prevented him from advancing in life. The DRB felt that while the applicant may have been young (18) at the time of his enlistment, most other enlistees are of similar age and do not commit misconduct. During his short time in the Air Force, the applicant amassed one Article 15, four letters of reprimand, and one AETC Form 173 for misconduct. Notably, three of the actions involved the applicant sleeping on post or during duty hours. The DRB found the applicant's falling asleep while posted as a sentinel near Tallil AB, Iraq in December 2003 to be particularly egregious. The applicant demonstrated that he was unwilling to conform to Air Force standards and therefore, his discharge characterization and reason are appropriate.

CONCLUSION: 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 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 and determines the discharge should remain unchanged.

Attachment: Examiner's Brief