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AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD DECISIONAL RATIONALE

FD-2009-00092

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.

FINDING: The Board denies the upgrade of the 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:

- 1. Although not explicitly stated, applicant contends her discharge was inequitable because it was too harsh. She admits that she made mistakes; however, she also feels as though she was misled by her supervisors and not treated the same of other airman in similar situations. The records indicated the applicant received an Article 15, a Vacation, three Letters of Reprimand, a Letter of Counseling, and a Memorandum for Record for misconduct. Her misconduct included wrongful appropriation of government property, failure to report for duty on-time, driving without a valid registration (3x), revocation of base driving privileges, and failure to follow a direct order. The DRB opined that through these administrative actions, the applicant had ample opportunities to change her negative behavior. The Board concluded that the negative aspects of the applicant's service outweighed the positive contributions she made in her Air Force career. The characterization of the discharge received by the applicant was found to be appropriate.
- 2. The applicant cited her desire to receive the G.I. Bill benefits as justification for upgrade. The DRB noted that when the applicant applied for these benefits, she understood she 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.

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