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AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD DECISIONAL RATIONALE

FD-2009-00104

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.

ISSUES:

Issue 1. Applicant contends discharge was inequitable because it was too harsh. The records indicated the applicant received an Article 15, a Letter of Reprimand, and a Letter of Counseling for misconduct. His infractions included dereliction of duty, a dress and appearance violation, and use of marijuana. Applicant stated he did not have a positive drug test, and was not "convicted" of drug abuse. The record indicated that applicant's drug abuse was identified during the course of an Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) investigation in which three eye witnesses to his drug abuse gave statements against him. After review of the record, the Board found no evidence to indicate that the applicant did not know right from wrong or that in his time in service was unaware of the Air Force policy of zero tolerance to drug use. The Board found the negative aspects of the willful misconduct outweighed the positive aspects of the applicant's performance and concluded that the discharge was appropriate.

Issue 2. Applicant states that his unit commander did not allow him to consult an attorney before he (applicant) was permanently decertified, presumably from Security Forces duties and / or the Personnel Reliability Program (PRP) (applicant does not specify what he was decertified from). There is no evidence however that applicant was not allowed to consult an attorney relative to receipt of his Article 15, or the processing of the discharge action. Evidence is to the contrary that he did consult an attorney at the time of his Article 15 and was given the opportunity to consult an attorney during his discharge processing. Therefore, no impropriety was found in the processing of the discharge, and the characterization of applicant's service was deemed to be appropriate due to his misconduct.

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

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.)

OMB No. 0704-0004 OMB approval expires Oct 31, 2009

The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 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 aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Department of Defense, Executive Services 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 OMB control number. PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR FORM TO THE ABOVE ORGANIZATION. RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO THE APPROPRIATE ADDRESS ON BACK OF THIS PAGE.

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AUTHORITY: 10 U.S.C. 1553; E.O. 9397.	PRIVAC	Y ACT STATEMENT		
PRINCIPAL PURPOSE(S): To apply for a cha	inge in the characteriz	ation or reason for milita	arv discharge i	issued to an individual
ROUTINE USE(S): None.				
DISCLOSURE: Voluntary; however, failure to p Security Number is strictly to assure proper idea	ntification of the individ	dual and appropriate red	cords.	
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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD ANDREWS AFB, MD

AFDRB BRIEF								
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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.)

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OMB No. 0704-0004 OMB approval expires Oct 31, 2009

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FD 2009-00104
DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
31ST FIGHTER WING (USAFE)





MEMORANDUM FOR

FROM: 31 SFS/CC

SUBJECT: Notification Memorandum

1. I am recommending your discharge from the United States Air Force for Misconduct: Drug Abuse. The authority for this action is AFPD 36-32 and AFI 36-3208, paragraph 5.54. If my recommendation is approved, your service will be characterized as an Under Honorable Conditions (General) discharge. I am recommending that your service be characterized as an Under Honorable Conditions (General) discharge.

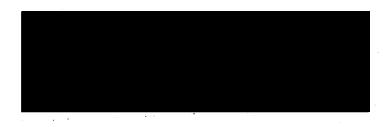
2. My reason for this action is:

- a. Between on or about 15 Feb 2007 and 3 May 2007, you wrongfully used marijuana, a Schedule I controlled substance. For this incident, you received an Article 15, dated 14 Jun 2007, with a punishment of reduction to the grade of Airman Basic, with a new date of rank of 14 Jun 2007, and forfeiture of \$600.00 pay per month for 2 months, suspended through 13 Dec 2007. This action was also used to create your Unfavorable Information File (UIF).
- b. I also considered the following derogatory information in accordance with paragraph 1.20 of AFI 36-3208. Although this information is not a part of the basis of this discharge action, I have considered it in determining my recommendation for your service characterization:
 - (1) On or about 6 May 2007, you were derelict in the performance of your duties and violated a lawful order by making unauthorized transmissions from the radio of a security forces vehicle. For this incident, you received a Letter of Reprimand (LOR), dated 6 May 2007.
 - (2) On or about 29 June 2007, you disobeyed a lawful order by reporting for duty unshaven. For this incident, you received a Letter of Counseling (LOC), dated 29 Jun 2007.
- 3. Copies of the documents to be forwarded to the separation authority in support of this recommendation are attached. The commander exercising SPCM jurisdiction or 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 Air Force and any special pay, bonus, or education assistance funds may be subject to recoupment. The separation authority will make the findings and recommendations required under 10 U.S.C. Section 2005(g).

FD 2009-00104

4. You have the ri	ght to consult counsel. Military le	egal counsel has been obtained to assist you.
I have made an app	ointment for you to consul	t Building 224 on
Aviano AB, via tel	ephone to Al Udeid, extension 43	7-6300, on 24 July, at
<i>1530</i> hou	rs. You may consult civilian cou	nsel at your own expense.

- 5. You have the right to submit statements in your own behalf. Any statements you want the separation authority to consider must reach me by 27 Juy 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 to submit statements in your own 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 to Family Practice Clinic, Area One Hospital on 24 July, at 1315 hours for the examination.
- 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 at the Office of the Area Defense Counsel or the Unit Orderly Room.
- 9. Execute the attached acknowledgment and return it to me immediately.



Attachments:

- 1. Supporting Documents
 - a. AF Form 1137/Article 15 dated 14 Jun 2007
 - b. LOR dated 6 May 2007
 - c. LOC dated 29 Jun 2007
- 2. Receipt of Notification Memorandum