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### AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD DECISIONAL RATIONALE

FD-2009-00699

**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.

**ISSUE**: Applicant received a General discharge for Misconduct—Minor disciplinary Infractions (Primary) and Failure in the Fitness Program (Secondary)

Applicant contends discharge was inequitable based on paragraph 5.65 and Table 1.3 of AFI 36-3208, Administrative Separation of Airmen, which states a member will receive an honorable discharge for failure in the fitness program. Based on paragraph 5.66.2 of AFI 36-3208, the service of airmen discharged for not meeting fitness standards will be characterized as honorable if the sole reason for separation is failure to meet fitness standards. His failure in the fitness program was the secondary reason for his discharge. The applicant's primary reason for discharge was misconduct, specifically minor disciplinary infractions. The records indicated the applicant received an Article 15, six Letters of Reprimand, and one Letter of Counseling. His misconduct included failure to maintain dorm room standards, failed to turn in Fitness Improvement Activity Log (AF Form 1475) (3x), failed fitness test (2x), signed AF Form 1475 in a area he was not authorized to sign, made a false official statement, and failed to go to duty on time. The Board opined that through these administrative actions, the applicant had ample opportunities to change his behavior. They found the seriousness of the willful misconduct offset any positive aspects of the applicant's duty performance. The Board reviewed the entire record and found no evidence of impropriety or inequity to warrant an upgrade of the discharge.

**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.

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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Page 1 of 4 Pages FormFlow/Adobe Designer 7.0

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Army Review Boards Agency Support Division, St. Louis	Naval Council of Personnel Boards 720 Kennon Street, S.E.
9700 Page Avenue St. Louis, MO 63132-5200 (See http://arba.army.pentagon.mil)	Room 309 (NDRB) Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5023
AIR FORCE Air Force Review Boards Agency	COAST GUARD U.S. Coast Guard
SAF/MRBR 550-C Street West, Suite 40	Commandant (CG-122)
550-C Street West, Suite 40 Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4742	2100 Second Street, S.W. Room 5500 Washington, DC 20593
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## DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD ANDREWS AFB, MD

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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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ARMY	NAVY AND MARINE CORPS
Army Review Boards Agency	İ
Support Division, St. Louis	Naval Council of Personnel Boards 720 Kennon Street, S.E.
9700 Page Avenue St. Louis, MO 63132-5200	Room 309 (NDRB) Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5023
(See http://arba.army.pentagon.mil)	- Casaning and August State Control of the Control
AIR FORCE	COAST GUARD
Air Force Review Boards Agency	U.S. Coast Guard
SAF/MRBR	Commandant (CG-122)
550-C Street West, Suite 40 Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4742	2100 Second Street, S.W. Room 5500 Washington, DC 20593

To Air Force Review Boards Agency,

I am writing to you in regards to my separation from the Air Force on April 28, 2009. I was discharged under AFI 36-3208, paragraphs 5.49 and 5.65. I was given an Under Honorable Conditions (General) discharge. In AFI 36-3208, Table 1.3. Reasons and Authority for Involuntary Separation, Paragraph 5.65 is designated as an Honorable or Entry-level discharge. Given my length of time in the Air Force, an Entry-Level discharge is not applicable. Though I was also discharged under 5.49 which does allow for Under Honorable Conditions (General), this is incompatible with 5.65. The notification memorandum specifically cites both paragraphs, not one or the other.

This means that by this regulation, the Air Force is obligated to give me an Honorable discharge rather than an Under Honorable Conditions (General). In light of this, I respectfully request that the Air Force fulfill its obligation spelled out in AFI 36-3208 and upgrade my Under Honorable Conditions (General) to an Honorable discharge.

Respectfully,



# DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE PACIFIC AIR FORCES

7APR 2 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR AMN

,3 SFS

FROM: 3 SFS/CC

SUBJECT: Notification Memorandum

- 1. I am recommending your discharge from the United States Air Force for minor disciplinary infractions and failure in the fitness program. The authority for this action is AFPD 36-32 and AFI 36-3208, paragraphs 5.49 and 5.65. If my recommendation is approved, your service will be characterized as Honorable or Under Honorable Conditions (General). I am recommending a General service characterization.
- 2. My reasons for this action are:
  - a.) The following misconduct has been considered for paragraph 5.49.
  - 1. On 3 Feb 09, you made a false official statement in regards to turning in your AF Form 1975 in a timely manner. In addition, you signed in the place of the Physical Training Leader (PTL) knowing you were not authorized to do so. For these offenses you received a Letter of Reprimand (LOR), dated 9 Feb 09.
- 2. On or about 1 Nov 08 and on or about 31 Dec 08, without authority, Amn failed to go at the time prescribed to his appointed place of duty. For this offense, he received an Article 15, dated 27 Feb 09. The punishment consisted of a reduction to the grade of Airman and 15 days extra duty.
- 3. On 28 Sep 08, you were derelict in the performance of your duties in that you failed to turn in your AF Form 1975s as directed by your supervisor. For this offense you received a LOR, dated 29 Sep 08.
- 4. On 25 Aug 08, you were derelict in the performance of your duties in that you failed to turn in your AF Form 1975s. In addition, you failed to abide by the rules set forth by the fitness program to work out for a minimum of 1 hour and have a PTL sign as proof of your actions. For these offenses, you received an LOR, dated 25 Aug 08.
- 5. On 30 Jul 08, you were derelict in the performance of your duties in that you failed to turn in your AF Form 1975s for three months. For this offense, you received a Letter of Counseling (LOC), dated 30 Jul 08.

- 6. On 16 Jan 08, you failed to obey a lawful order and failed to maintain government quarters by failing to keep your dormitory room up to proper standards and living conditions. For these offenses, you received an LOR, dated 16 Jan 08.
  - b) The following fitness failures have been considered for paragraph 5.65.
- 1. On 29 Jan 09, you failed your physical fitness test by scoring in the poor category with a 59.25.
- 2. On 29 Oct 08, you failed your physical fitness test by scoring in the poor category with a 45.25.
- 3. On or about 6 Nov 08 you received an LOR for failing to maintain acceptable physical fitness readiness since Apr 07. This document was used to establish an Unfavorable Information File (UIF), dated 17 Nov 08.
- 4. On 31 Jul 08, you failed your physical fitness test by scoring in the poor category with a 18.35. For this failure you received an LOR, dated 25 Aug 08.
- 5. On 2 May 08, you failed your physical fitness test by scoring in the poor category with a 24.55.
- 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 a higher authority will decide whether you are discharged or retained in the Air Force. 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.
- 4. You have the right to consult legal counsel. Military legal counsel has been obtained to assist you. I have made an appointment for you to consult, the Area Defense Counsel Capt

  552-3887, at Bldg 10480, Rm 330 on 3 Apr 69 at 1100. You may consult civilian counsel 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 within three duty days after the date of this letter unless you request and receive an extension for good cause shown. I will forward any statements you provide 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 medical examinations. You must report, with your medical records, to the 3rd Aerospace Medicine Squadron, Bldg 8497, at 0840 on 3Apr 09 for your first exam, at which time you will be notified of the time for your second exam. Please bring Medical Assessment Form (AF Form 2697) for your appointment. You are to refrain from

alcohol for 72 hours, and refrain from the use of tobacco products for 6 hours, prior to examination. Bring eyeglasses (and contact solution if using contacts) if applicable. You must be in uniform for these examinations.

- 8. You have been scheduled for a Transition Assistance Program briefing. You must report to the Family Support Center at 1500 on 3 Apr 09. You must be in uniform for all appointments.
- 9. 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 http://www.e-publishing.af.mil/.

**USAF** 

### 7 Attachments:

- 1. AF Form 3070, 27 Feb 09, w/ attchs
- 2. Letter of Reprimand, dtd 9 Feb 09
- 3. AF IMT 1058, 23 Dec 08, w/ attchs
- 4. AF IMT 1058, 17 Nov 08, w/ attchs
- 5. LOC, 30 Jul 08
- 6. LOR, 16 Jan 08
- 7. Fitness Documents



### DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE PACIFIC AIR FORCES

APR 13 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR 3 WG/CC

FROM: 3 WG/JA

SUBJECT: Legal Review - Administrative Discharge, Amn

3 SFS

- 1. Lt Col 3 SFS/CC, recommends that Amn be involuntarily separated from the Air Force with an Under Honorable Conditions (General) service characterization, pursuant to AFI 36-3208, paragraphs 5.49 and 5.65, specifically, minor disciplinary infractions and failure in the fitness program. The reasons set forth in the Commander's Recommendation for Discharge Letter, with accompanying documentation, are legally sufficient to support discharge action under these provisions of the instruction. Prior to final discharge, Amn will be medically cleared for separation.
- 2. FACTS: The discharge is based upon events occurring during Amn enlistment, which began on 13 Mar 07, and are detailed below:
  - a. The following misconduct has been considered for paragraph 5.49.
  - 1. On 3 Feb 09, Amn made a false official statement in regards to turning in his AF Form 1975 in a timely manner. In addition, Amn signed in the place of the Physical Training Leader (PTL) knowing he was not authorized to do so. For these offenses he received a Letter of Reprimand (LOR), dated 9 Feb 09.
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actions. For these offenses, he received an LOR, dated 25 Aug 08. This document was placed in the member's already existing UIF.

- 5. On 30 Jul 08, Amn was derelict in the performance of his duties in that he failed to turn in his AF Form 1975s for three months. For this offense, he received a Letter of Counseling (LOC), dated 30 Jul 08.
- 6. On 16 Jan 08, Amn failed to obey a lawful order and failed to maintain government quarters by failing to keep his dormitory room up to proper standards and living conditions. For these offenses, he received an LOR, dated 16 Jan 08.
- b. The following fitness failures and documentation have been considered for paragraph 5.65.
- 1. On 29 Jan 09, Amn failed his physical fitness test by scoring in the poor category with a 59.25.
- 2. On or about 6 Nov 08 Amn received an LOR for failing to maintain acceptable physical fitness readiness since April 2007. This document was used to establish a Unfavorable Information File (UIF), dated 17 Nov 08
- 3. On 29 Oct 08, Amn failed his physical fitness test by scoring in the poor category with a 45.25.
- 4. On 31 Jul 08, Amn failed his physical fitness test by scoring in the poor category with a 18.35. He received an LOR, dated 25 Aug 08. This document was placed in the member's already existing UIF.
- 5. On 2 May 08, Amn failed his physical fitness test by scoring in the poor category with a 24.55.
- 3. OTHER MATTERS: N/A
- 4. MEMBER'S RESPONSE: Amn consulted counsel, and on 6 Apr 09 waived his right to submit matters for your consideration.

### 5. ANALYSIS:

a. Appropriateness of Discharge. Pursuant to AFI 36-3208, paragraph 5.49, an Airman is subject to discharge for minor disciplinary infractions when the Airman fails to comply with non-punitive regulations or commits minor offenses under the UCMJ. Amn has committed several disciplinary infractions, to include, making false official statements, failing to report to duty on time, failing to turn in the proper documentation concerning his physical fitness, and failing to keep his government quarters up to standards. Furthermore, according to AFI 10-248, paragraph 8.2.6, commanders will make a discharge or retention recommendation to the Installation Commander when an individual remains in the poor fitness category for a

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continuous 12-month period or receives four poor fitness assessments in a 24-month period.

Amn has failed his physical fitness test four times within a 10 month period. He was enrolled in the Fitness Improvement Program and the Body Composition Improvement Program.

Amn received multiple administrative correction tools for motivation, but his failure to put forth the effort and inability to achieve a passing physical fitness test score is grounds for administrative separation.

- b. Characterization of Service. Pursuant to AFI 36-3208, paragraph 1.18, a general service characterization is warranted if an Airman's service has been honest and faithful, but significant negative aspects of the Airman's conduct or performance of duty outweigh the positive aspects. An honorable service characterization is warranted if the quality of the Airman's service generally has met Air Force standards of acceptable conduct and performance of duty or when the Airman's service is otherwise so meritorious that any other characterization would be inappropriate. In this case, Amn has received one Article 15, six LORs, one LOC, and establishment of an Unfavorable Information File (UIF). In addition, AFI 36-3208, paragraph 5.66.2, the service of Airmen discharged for not meeting fitness standards will be characterized as honorable if the sole reason for separation is the failure to meet fitness standards. In this case, there is an additional basis for discharge aside from his failure to meet fitness standards. Therefore, other service characterizations are authorized. His actions, specifically the nature of his misconduct, represent significant negative aspects of conduct and performance that outweigh the positive aspects of his Air Force service. Amn service has not been honorable; therefore, a general characterization is warranted.
- c. Probation and Rehabilitation (P&R). Pursuant to AFI 36-3208, Chapter 7, P&R should be allowed for Airmen who have demonstrated a potential to serve satisfactorily, have the capacity to be rehabilitated, and whose retention on active duty in a probationary status is consistent with the maintenance of good order and discipline in the Air Force. Actual and measured success requires the effort and dedication of the individual. Amn has been provided ample opportunity and time to pass his physical fitness test and correct his subpar behavior, but has failed to do so. Amn has failed four fitness tests in the past 10 months. Lt Col does not believe expending further resources toward retaining Amn will prove successful in helping him reach Air Force standards. Lt Col is opposed to P&R and I concur with his recommendation. However, if after reviewing this package, you are convinced that Amr has the potential to meet standards, P&R for 6-12 months would be a preferable option to either retention or an honorable characterization.
- 6. OPTIONS: You may take one of the following actions in this case:
  - a. Direct this action be discontinued and Amn be <u>retained</u>, or;
- b. Forward this case file to the 11 AF/CC if you believe Amn should be separated from the Air Force with an honorable service characterization, with or without P&R;
- c. Direct Amn be separated from the Air Force with an <u>under honorable conditions</u> (general) service characterization, with or without P&R.

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d. Direct Amn	case be processed under Chapter 6, Section C (Board Hearing), if
you determine Amn	misconduct may warrant an under other than honorable
conditions (UOTHC) s	service characterization.

7. **RECOMMENDATION**: I recommend separating Amn from the Air Force, pursuant to AFI 36-3208, paragraphs 5.49 and 5.65, for minor disciplinary infractions and failure in the fitness program with an Under Honorable Conditions (General) service characterization without P&R.

**USAF** 

Chief, Military Justice

I concur.

USAF

Statt Judge Advocate

Attachment: Case File (Amn

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