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CASE NUMBER

### AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD DECISIONAL RATIONALE

FD-2009-00721

**GENERAL:** The applicant appeals to change the reason 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 grants the requested relief.

ISSUE: Applicant received an Honorable discharge—Personality Disorder

Applicant contends the narrative reason for discharge inequitable because the true nature of his disability was Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). After a thorough review of the records and Veterans Association diagnosis of service connected PTSD the board finds the reason for discharge inequitable and grants change to Secretarial Authority.

**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.

However, in view of the foregoing findings, the Board concludes that the reason for the discharge is more accurately described as Secretarial Authority under the provisions of Title 10, USC 1553.

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 informatic maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Department or person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply TO THE ABOVE ORGANIZATION. RETURN CO	ing the coll of Defense,	ection of information. Serv Executive Services Direct flection of information if it	i com torate toes r	ments regarding this burd (0704-0004). Respondent tot display a currently valid	en esu s shou i OMA	mate or any ild be aware control num	that not	spect of the withstandi _EASE C	ind any	other provis	sion of law. In	no Honery
	<del></del>	PRIVACY	AC	TSTATEMENT	-							
AUTHORITY: 10 U.S.C. 1553; E.O. 9397 PRINCIPAL PURPOSE(S): To apply for a ROUTINE USE(S): None.	a change			•							fan Caalal	
DISCLOSURE: Voluntary; however, failur Security Number is strictly to assure prope	er identif	ication of the individ	lual	and appropriate rec	ords.			ication.	ine i	equest	or Social	
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Scott AFB, IL		block 28 "Pe		nality Disorder			$X_i^*$					
6. ISSUES: WHY AN UPGRADE OR CHAN Page 3.)	NGE IS	REQUESTED AND	JUS	STIFICATION FOR	THE	REQUES	ST (Co	ntinue in	Item 1	3. See in	structions o	on
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and is PTSD. Also, a diagnosis o												
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8. IN SUPPORT OF THIS APPLICATION, I If military documents or medical records are re	FHE FO	LLOWING ATTACH your case, please se	1ED nd α	DOCUMENTS AR	E SU	BMITTE	DAS	EVIDEN	ICE: (	Continue .	in Item 14.	
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13. CONTINUATION OF ITEM 6, ISSUES (If applicable)	
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14. CONTINUATION OF ITEM 8, SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS (If applica	ible)
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15. REMARKS (If applicable)  Mr. is employed with Federal civil service in a se	ecurity position at a facility handling sensitive information.
Since he is a thoroughly competent and conscientious of for positions of greater responsibility.  This unwarranted stigma of "Personality Disorder" may	employee, he will no doubt apply for or be recommended  affect his promotion potential in civil service, and deprive
our government of the services of an articulate and taler	
It should be clear that the problem all along was post tra	aumatic stress disorder.
He needs an updated DD214, WITHOUT "Personality I Request adverse information in blocks 26 and 27 be charged in the contract of the contract o	
	COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA
	OFFICE OF VETERAN SERVICES 68 N. Winchester Blvd.
	Santa Clera, CA 95050
	O:(408)553-5000 F:(499)553-49^3
MAIL COMPLETED APPLICATIONS T	O APPROPRIATE ADDRESS BELOW.
ARMY	NAVY AND MARINE CORPS
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	Room 309 (NDRB)
(See http://arba.army.pentagon.mil)	Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5023
AIR FORCE	COAST GUARD
Air Force Review Boards Agency	U.S. Coast Guard
SAF/MRBR	U.S. Coast Guard Commandant (CG-122)
550-C Street West, Suite 40	2100 Second Street, S.W. Room 5500
Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4742	Washington, DC 20593

### DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD ANDREWS AFB, MD

AFDRB BRIEF									
NAME (Last. First. MI):		SSN:	DOCKET# FD-2009-00721				21	COMPONENT: USAF	
TYPE OF DISCHARGE: DISCHARGE FROM: SCOTT AFB, ILL			DISCHARG 21 SEP 99	1	APPEALS DISCHAR		NGE REASON FOR		
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	RECORDS: MPR: YES ARMS: NO STR: YES ISSUES: YES ATTACHMENTS: YES  AUTH FOR DISCHARGE: AFI - 36-3208, PARA 5.11.1 (PERSONALITY DISORDER)								
ART 15; VAC; SCM; SPM	C; GCM; ADDITIONAL:								
EXAMINER'S NOTE: PTSD CASE APPLICANT MEETS THE NEW CRITERIA FOR EXPIDITE PROCESSING. NOTIFICATION. MEMORANDUM DATED 11AUG 99 PARA 2 CITES: MEMBER DIAGNOSED WITH AXIS II PERSONALITY DISORDER (SEVERE) SO SEVERE THAT ABILITY TO FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY IN A MILITARY ENVIRONMENT IS SIGNIFICANTLY IMPAIRED AND IS THE REASON FOR DISCHARGE.									
NOTES:									

## 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 an 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. PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT AUTHORITY: 10 U.S.C. 1553; E.O. 9397. PRINCIPAL PURPOSE(S): To apply for a change in the characterization or reason for military discharge issued to an individual. ROUTINE USE(S): None. DISCLOSURE: Voluntary; however, failure to provide identifying information may impede processing of this application. The request for Social Security Number is strictly to assure proper identification of the individual and appropriate records. 1. APPLICANT DATA (The person whose discharge is to be reviewed). PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE INFORMATION. ✓ AIR FORCE NAVY COAST GUARD ARMY MARINE CORPS a. BRANCH OF SERVICE (X one) c. GRADE/RANK AT DISCHARGE d. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER b. NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) E4 ... DRESS OF APPLICANT OR PERSON NAMED IN ITEM 11 (Forward (III Code) g. E-MAIL h. FAX NUMBER (Include Area Code) 2. DATE OF DISCHARGE OR SEPARATION 4. DISCHARGE CHARACTERIZATION RECEIVED (X one) 5. BOARD ACTION REQUESTED (X one) (YYYYMMDD) (If date is more than 15 years ago, submit a DD Form 149) HONORABLE CHANGE TO HONORABLE CHANGE TO GENERAL/UNDER HONORABLE CONDITIONS GENERAL/UNDER HONORABLE CONDITIONS 09/21/1999~ UNDER OTHER THAN HONORABLE CONDITIONS CHANGE TO UNCHARACTERIZED 3. UNIT AND LOCATION AT DISCHARGE BAD CONDUCT (Special court-martial only) (Not applicable for Air Force) OR SEPARATION CHANGE NARRATIVE REASON FOR 375 SFS (AMC) IL UNCHARACTERIZED SEPARATION: OTHER (Explain 5 CONT AFB IL | DIOCK 28 "Personality Disorder" | 16. ISSUES: WHY AN UPGRADE OR CHANGE IS REQUESTED AND JUSTIFICATION FOR THE REQUEST (Continue in Item 13. See instructions on The stigma of "personality disorder" on my DD214 is unjustified, given that the true nature of my disability was and is PTSD. Also, a diagnosis of any kind on my Honorable discharge is a violation of my privacy rights. 7. (X if applicable) AN APPLICATION WAS PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED ON (YYYYMMDD)
AND THIS FORM IS SUBMITTED TO ADD ADDITIONAL ISSUES, JUSTIFICATION, OR EVIDENCE. 8. IN SUPPORT OF THIS APPLICATION, THE FOLLOWING ATTACHED DOCUMENTS ARE SUBMITTED AS EVIDENCE: (Continue in Item 14. If military documents or medical records are relevant to your case, please send copies.) VA award letter for service connection for post traumatic stress disorder DD Form 2697, block 12. Symptoms are consistent with PTSD. COMMENTS VA Vet Center San Jose, CA diagnosis of PTSD, <del>21-4138</del> from Veterans Services Representative 1965 € 9. TYPE OF REVIEW REQUESTED (X one) CONDUCT A RECORD REVIEW OF MY DISCHARGE BASED ON MY MILITARY PERSONNEL FILE AND ANY ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION SUBMITTED BY ME. I AND/OR (counsel/representative) WILL NOT APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD. I AND/OR (counsel/representative) WISH TO APPEAR AT A HEARING AT NO EXPENSE TO THE GOVERNMENT BEFORE THE BOARD IN THE WASHINGTON, D.C. METROPOLITAN AREA. I ANDIOR (counsel/representative) WISH TO APPEAR AT A HEARING AT NO EXPENSE TO THE GOVERNMENT BEFORE A TRAVELING PANEL CLOSEST TO (NOTE: The Navy Discharge Review Board does not have a traveling panel.) (enter city and state) TELEBUIANE MILMBED (Include Area Code) 10.a. COUNSEL/REPRESENTATIVE (If any) NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) AND ADDRESS (See Item 10 of the instructions about counsel/representative.) Santa Clara County Office of Veterans Services 68 N. Winchester Blvd. Santa Clara, CA 95050 d. FAX NUMBER Unclude Area Code) 11. APPLICANT MUST SIGN IN ITEM 12.a. BELOW. If the record in question is that of a deceased or incompetent person, LEGAL PROOF OF DEATH OR INCOMPETENCY MUST ACCOMPANY THE APPLICATION. If the application is signed by other than the applicant, and relationship by marking a box below. Indicate the name (print) WOOW WIDOWER **NEXT OF KIN** LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE SPOUSE OTHER (Specify) 12. CERTIFICATION. I make the foregoing statements, as part of my claim, with full knowledge of the penalties involved for willfully making a false statement or claim. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Sections 287 and 0001 provide that an individual shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both.) CASE NUMBER (Do not write in this space.) PEOLIRED (Analicant or lerson in Item 11 above) b. DATE SIGNED - REQUIRED (YYYYMMDD) 10/29/2009

13. CONTINUATION OF ITEM 6, ISSUES (If applicable)	
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14. CONTINUATION OF ITEM 8, SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS (If applic	able)
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15. REMARKS (If applicable)	
Since he is a thoroughly competent and conscientious for positions of greater responsibility.	ecurity position at a facility handling sensitive information. employee, he will no doubt apply for or be recommended
This unwarranted stigma of "Personality Disorder" may our government of the services of an articulate and tale	affect his promotion potential in civil service, and deprive nted employee.
It should be clear that the problem all along was post tr	aumatic stress disorder.
He needs an updated DD214, WITHOUT "Personality Request adverse information in blocks 26 and 27 be ch	Disorder" in Block 28, instead of the customary DD215. anged, also.
	COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA OFFICE OF VETERAN SERVICES 68 N. Winchester Bivd. Santa Clara, CA 95050 O:(408)553-5000 F:(408)553-5013
MAIL COMPLETED APPLICATIONS 1	TO APPROPRIATE ADDRESS BELOW.
ARMY	NAVY AND MARINE CORPS
Army Review Boards Agency	Naval Council of Personnel Boards
Support Division, St. Louis 9700 Page Avenue	720 Kennon Street, S.E.
St. Louis, MO 63132-5200	Room 309 (NDRB) Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5023
(See http://arba.army.pentagon.mil)	Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5023
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
Manadipit At D, 17, 10100 Trac	Washington, DO 20000

MEMORANDUM FOR SRA

375 SFS,

FROM: 375 SFS/CC

SUBJECT: Notification Letter

- 1. I am recommending your discharge from the United States Air Force for a personality disorder. The authority for this action is AFPD 36-32 and AFI 36-3208, paragraph 5.11.1. If my recommendation of discharge is approved, your service will be characterized as Honorable.
- 2. My reason for this action is that you have been diagnosed with a personality disorder that interferes with your military service. I directed you to receive a mental health evaluation following your admission to the Scott Air Force Base Hospital after recent problems with your attitude and duty performance. Major Chief of Substance Abuse Services, assessed you as suffering from an Axis I mental disorder (Partner Relationship Problem and Eating Disorder) and an Axis II personality disorder (Personality Disorder, Severe). He states while your mental disorder is not of a severity to warrant a medical board review under the provisions of AFI 36-3212 your personality disorder is so severe that your ability to function effectively in a military environment is significantly impaired. Col , Mental Health Flight Commander, concurred with Major assessment. According to AFI 36-3208, para 5.11.1, a personality disorder that interferes with your military service warrants discharge. (Atch 1)
- 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 will be discharged or retained in the Air Force. If you are discharged, you will be ineligible for reenlistment in the Air Force.
- 4. You have the right to consult counsel. Military legal counsel has been obtained to assist you. I have made an appointment for you to consult with the Area Defense Counsel, Bldg 7, on \_\_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_\_, hrs. You may consult civilian counsel at your own expense.
- 5. You will report before close of business tomorrow to the Transportation Management Office (TMO), Outbound Assignments, to complete a Scott Air Force Base Form 241/Personal Property Appointment Sheet. That worksheet must be completed and returned to TMO within 2 days.
- 6. You will report before close of business tomorrow to Special Actions at Military Pay, Bldg P-10, room C201, to make arrangements concerning your military pay.

7. You have been scheduled for a medical examination.	You must report to the 375th Medical
Group, Physical Examinations Section, on 11 Aug	at 1300 hrs for the
examination. You also have a doctor's appointment sched	iuled on <u>V An</u> at
1300 hrs.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

- 8. You have the right to submit statements in your own behalf. Any statements you want the separation authority to consider must reach me within 3 duty days unless you request and receive an extension for good cause shown. I will send them to the separation authority.
- 9. 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.
- 10. Any personal information you furnish in rebuttal is covered by the Privacy Act Statement as explained in AFI 36-3208. A copy of AFI 36-3208 is available for your use in the squadron orderly room.

Commander

', Lt Col, USAF

### Attachments:

- 1. Psychologist Ltr, dated
- 2. Airman's Acknowledgement

#### MEMORANDUM FOR 375 AW/CC

FROM: 375 AW/JA

SUBJECT: Legal Review of Administrative Discharge, SrA

- 1. <u>Summary</u>: I have reviewed SrA administrative discharge package and find it legally sufficient. This discharge is for a Personality Disorder. IAW AFI 36-3208, paragraph 5.11.1, this mental condition serves as a basis for discharge. According to AFI 36-3208, airmen separated under paragraph 5.11.1 must receive an Honorable service characterization. Accordingly, I recommend you approve the Honorable Discharge by signing the attached letter.
- 2. <u>Basis for Action</u>: On 11 Aug 99, the respondent's commander, Lt Col 375 SFS/CC, notified SrA of his decision to initiate administrative discharge proceedings for a Personality Disorder IAW AFI 36-3208, paragraph 5.11.1. Respondent acknowledged receipt of notification on 11 Aug 99. Respondent consulted with counsel and waived his right to submit a statement. Lt Col recommended SrA discharge on 17 Aug 99.

### 3. Fact Summary:

- a. SrA is 32 years old. He entered the Air Force on 9 May 94 and reenlisted on 11 Jul 97 for a period of four years. He has been on continuous active duty since that date.

  SrA TAFMSD is less than six years, therefore he is not board entitled.

  Lt Col is requesting discharge based on SrA personality disorder that interferes with his ability to function effectively in the military environment.
- b. On 15 Jun 99, SrA underwent a command directed mental health evaluation with Maj at the Scott AFB Mental Health Clinic. The evaluation was initiated based on recent problems with attitude and duty performance that called into question SrA reliability and judgment with firearms. Maj primary diagnosis was a "Borderline Personality Disorder (Severe)." The mental health findings suggest that SrA has a personality disorder that negatively effects his ability to maintain perceptual accuracy and avoid impulsive reactions in stressful situations. As a result, SrA disorder prevents him carrying out duties where he would have access to weapons. Furthermore, SrA disorder significantly impairs his ability to function effectively in the military environment.
- 4. <u>Legal Sufficiency</u>: The file is legally sufficient to support the requested discharge pursuant to AFI 36-3208, paragraph 5.11.1, personality disorders.

5. <u>Discussion:</u> The recommendation for discharge was supported by a report of evaluation by a
clinical psychologist that confirms the diagnosis of a disorder listed in the Diagnostic and
Statistical Manual of Medical Disorders (DSM-IV). The report appropriately states and
describes a disorder "so severe that the member's ability to function effectively in the military
environment is significantly impaired." AFI 36-3208, para. 5.11.1

6. Probati	on and Rehabilitati	ion (P&R): The use of P&	R is authorized in this case under A	FI 36				
3208, Cha	pter 7. SrA	duty performance indica	tes he could be an asset to the Air Fo	orce.				
Maj	believes SrA	has been able to funct	ion well up to this point mainly beca	use				
he has bee	he has been working in a career field he loves. Since SrA lisorder prevents him from							
carrying out duties which give him access to weapons, continuing in the Security Forces career								
field is not an option at this point. Accordingly, Maj recommends that if SrA is								
not able to work with Security Forces, he be administratively separated. Furthermore, SrA								
has indicat	ted he as no interes	t in cross-training to anoth	er career field.					

- 7. Options: As the Separation Authority, you have the following options in this case:
  - a. Retain the respondent in the Air Force in his current career field.
- b. Retain the respondent in the Air Force, having him cross-train, involuntarily, into another career field.
- c. Direct the separation of the respondent with an honorable discharge, with or without probation and rehabilitation.
- 8. <u>Recommendation:</u> I recommend you sign the attached letter discharging SrA from the Air Force with an honorable discharge, without probation and rehabilitation.

, Capt, USAF Deputy Chief, Military Justice

I concur.

, Lt Col, USAF Staff Judge Advocate

Attachment:

Proposed 375 AW/CC Ltr w Atchs (Case file)