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AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD DECISIONAL RATIONALE

FD-2010-00036

GENERAL: The applicant appeals for upgrade of discharge to honorable.

IAW AFI 36-3213, the applicant was offered a personal appearance before the Discharge Review Board (DRB), however failed to make a timely response to the Board's notification of a scheduled hearing. Therefore it has been deemed that the applicant has waived his right to a personal appearance and the DRB completed a review of the discharge based on the available service records.

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

While not explicitly stated, the applicant contends discharge was inequitable because it was too harsh because the discharge was based on multiple write-ups because of physical training (PT) alone. The records indicated the applicant received one Article 15, eight Letters of Reprimand, and three Records of Individual Counseling. His misconduct included with intent to deceive made false statement to security forces official, assaulted an airman, disobeyed an order, acted in an insubordinate manner, failed to report to PT (3x), made false statement (2x), with intent to deceive allowed underage civilian to use his ID to enter an establishment that he was not authorized to enter, failed to report for a formation, made false statement claiming to have an appointment for sick call, failed in escort duties by abandoning the civilian that needed to be escorted, left duty section without authority, failed to pay just debts, absent from place of duty without authorization, and failed to report on time for duty (2x). The DRB opined that through these administrative actions, the applicant had ample opportunities to change his negative behavior. The Board concluded that the negative aspects of the applicant's service outweighed the positive contributions he made in his Air Force career. The characterization of the discharge received by the applicant was found to be appropriate.

The applicant cited his desire to receive the G.I. Bill benefits as justification for upgrade. The DRB noted that when the applicant applied for these benefits, he signed a statement (DD Form 2366, dated November 28, 2000) that he understood he 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