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AIR FORCE DISCHARGE REVIEW BOARD DECISIONAL RATIONALE

FD-2011-00004

GENERAL: The applicant appeals to change the reason and authority for the discharge and to change the reenlistment code.

The applicant appeared and testified before the Discharge Review Board (DRB), without counsel, at Andrews AFB on 02 Oct 2012.

The attached brief contains available pertinent data on the applicant and the factors leading to the discharge.

FINDING: The Board denies the change of reason and authority for discharge, and change of reenlistment code is denied.

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: Applicant received an Honorable discharge for Mental Disorders: Personality Disorder.

Applicant contends her discharge was improper because she was incorrectly diagnosed with a personality disorder. The Board noted a clerical error in the record and the reason for discharge was in fact "Adjustment Disorder" rather than "Personality Disorder." The applicant was aware of this prior to coming before the DRB and opted to continue her appeal for correction of the narrative reason for discharge to "Secretarial Authority" and to change her reenlistment code. She contends the problems that led to her discharge were due to a combination of personal problems and poor command climate, exacerbated by unengaged leadership. She submitted documentation from a mental health evaluation dated 28 December 2010 that concluded applicant "showed no evidence of any significant pathopsychology or gross behavioral or personality disturbance." Applicant's military record indicates she was seen by Mental Health in Dec 2000 after suicidal gesture of sixteen Sudafed tablets at which time she was diagnosed as having an Occupational Problem, Relational Problem and Phase of Life Problem. The record indicates she again had a suicidal gesture in June 2001 via ingestion of 20 Clinoril tablets. At this time, she was diagnosed with Impulse Control Disorder and Adjustment Disorder with mixed disturbance of emotions and conduct, chronic. Her mental disorder was determined to be so severe that her ability to function effectively in the military environment was significantly impaired. She testified before the Board that she fabricated her story of a suicidal gesture at the time to get the attention that she felt she needed to deal with the stressors in her life, both personal and work-related. She stated she only took four Sudafed in December and only one Clinoril in June. She denied either was an actual suicide attempt. She testified her problems could have been resolved had command been more engaged and if her unit had been more supportive. She denied having gone to her first sergeant or the chaplain regarding her concerns. She stated she felt isolated and discriminated against for being the only Caucasian female and because of her drive for excellence. She submitted that had she been given the right resources, she could have found resolution to her personal problems and continued in her career. The Board reviewed the entire record and the documents submitted by the applicant. They found neither documents nor the applicant's testimony compelling enough to substantiate a change in narrative reason for discharge or to change the reenlistment code. They found the applicant was given ample resources to resolve her issues through the multiple therapy sessions provided by the Mental Health Clinic from December 2000 through February 2001 and again in June 2001 through her date of discharge. They found the applicant's discharge for Adjustment disorder proper and equitable.

The Board will contact the Air Force Personnel Center to have the DD214 corrected to show the proper reason for discharge, Adjustment Disorder, as indicated in applicant's record.

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