

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS**

Application for the Correction of
the Coast Guard Record of:

**FINAL DECISION
BCMR Docket No. 2002-092**

SUMMARY OF THE RECORD

The applicant asked the Board to change the term of his Reserve enlistment contract from 4 to 8 years. He alleged that he had intended to enlist for 8 years and that his primary reason for enlisting had been to receive educational benefits under the Montgomery GI Bill. However, when he applied for the benefits, he was told he was ineligible because his contract term was only 4 years. The applicant's Reserve contract dated January 14, 2001, states that he enlisted for 4 years. However, his record also contains a January 14, 2001, Statement of Understanding, prepared by his recruiter, which states, "I [applicant's name] understand that I am enlisting in a program, which has a military service obligation (MSO) of 8 years."

The Chief Counsel of the Coast Guard and the Commander of the Coast Guard Personnel Command both recommended that the Board grant the applicant's request because the record indicates that he intended to enlist for 8 years and that the 4-year term of his contract is "a bona fide error."

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The applicant has proved by a preponderance of the evidence that he intended to enlist in the Reserve for 8 years and that his recruiter intended to enlist him for 8 years. He has proved by a preponderance of the evidence that the 4-year term on his contract is the result of an administrative error. Accordingly, his request should be granted.

ORDER

The military record of xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx, USCGR, shall be corrected to show that on January 14, 2001, he enlisted in the Reserve for 8 years instead of 4 years.

November 14, 2002
Date

Edmund T. Sommer, Jr.

Dorothy J. Ulmer

Betsy L. Wolf

