

## DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS 2 NAVY ANNEX

WASHINGTON DC 20370-5100

TRG

Docket No: 4200-02 18 October 2002

From: Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records To: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF

Ref: (a) Title 10 U.S.C. 1552

Encl: (1) Case Summary (2) Subject's naval record

1. Pursuant to the provisions of reference (a), Petitioner, a former enlistment member in the Navy filed an application with this Board requesting that his record be corrected by changing the RE-4 reenlistment code assigned on 14 December 2000.

2. The Board, consisting of Mr. Pfeiffer, Mr. Tew and Ms. Hare, reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 16 October 2002 and, pursuant to its regulations, determined that the corrective action indicated below should be taken on the available evidence of record. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of the enclosures, naval records, and applicable statutes, regulations and policies.

3. The Board, having reviewed all the facts of record pertaining to Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice, finds as follows:

a. Before applying to this Board, Petitioner exhausted all administrative remedies available under existing law and regulations within the Department of the Navy.

b. Petitioner's application was filed in a timely manner.

c. Petitioner enlisted in the Navy on 27 June 2000 for four years at age 22. His preenlistment physical examination indicates that he admitted to past problems and surgery on his elbow. However, after an evaluation, he was found qualified for enlistment. On 25 October 2000 he was diagnosed with ulnar nerve deterioration that was correctable to meet Navy standards. Another evaluation, dated 7 November 2000, states that he was having chronic elbow pain and "this is a chronic condition which is progressive. Will not improve with physical therapy". The doctor concluded that the condition was not correctable to meet Navy standards.

d. Based on the doctor's recommendation he was processed for an administrative separation "due to other designated

physical conditions". On 17 November 2000, the separation authority directed separation stating, in part, as follows:

.... (He) disclosed surgery in May 1999 for his nerve neuropathy. Although the surgery was successful at that time, (his) symptoms returned while on active duty and he refused to accept medical treatment for his condition ....

Petitioner was separated from active duty on 14 December 2000. At that time he was not recommended for reenlistment and was assigned an RE-4 reenlistment code.

e. Petitioner has submitted evidence showing that since discharge, he has had surgery on his elbow. The surgeon states that he has now regained full motion of his arm, the nerve symptoms have completely resolved, and he has resumed weight lifting activities. He believes that Petitioner is physically qualified for military service. Petitioner desires a change in the reenlistment code so that he can be considered for officer programs.

f. Regulations allow for the assignment of an RE-3G or an RE-4 reenlistment code when an individual is separated due to a condition not a disability interfering with the performance of duty. An RE-3G reenlistment means that he is recommended for reenlistment but for the disqualifying medical condition. This code may be waived if he can demonstrate that the condition no longer exists.

## CONCLUSION:

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record the Board concludes that Petitioner's request warrants favorable action. The Board notes that Petitioner was apparently a good Sailor and would not have been separated except for his elbow problem. Given the circumstances, the Board concludes that no useful purpose is now served by the RE-4 reenlistment code and it should now be changed to the less restrictive RE-3G code. This code will alert recruiters that there is a problem that must be resolved before enlistment or commissioning can be authorized.

The Board further concludes that this Report of Proceedings should be filed in Petitioner's naval record so that all future reviewers will understand the reason for the change in the reenlistment code.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

a. That Petitioner's naval record be corrected by issuing a DD Form 215 to show that on 14 December 2000 he was assigned an RE-3G reenlistment code vice the RE-4 reenlistment code now of record.

b. That this Report of Proceedings be filed in Petitioner's naval record.

4. It is certified that a quorum was present at the Board's review and deliberations, and that the foregoing is a true and complete record of the Board's proceedings in the above entitled matter.

ALAN E. GOLDSMITH

ROBERT D. ZSALMAN Recorder ALAN E. GOLDSMITH Acting Recorder

5. Pursuant to the delegation of authority set out in Section 6(e) of the revised Procedures of the Board for Correction of Naval Records (32 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 723.6(e)) and having assured compliance with its provisions, it is hereby announced that the foregoing corrective action, taken under the authority of reference (a), has been approved by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.

W. DEAN PF. Executive Di