

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS
2 NAVY ANNEX
WASHINGTON DC 20370-5100

CRS

Docket No: 2029-07

5 May 2008



This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to the provisions of title 10 of the United States Code section 1552.

A three-member panel of the Board for Correction of Naval Records, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 16 April 2008. Your allegations of error and injustice were reviewed in accordance with administrative regulations and procedures applicable to the proceedings of this Board. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of your application, together with all material submitted in support thereof, your naval record and applicable statutes, regulations and policies.

After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board found that the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice.

The Board found that you enlisted in the Navy on 20 July 1972. You had three periods of unauthorized absence of a total duration of 20 days for which no adjudication is shown in your record. You were convicted by summary court-marital on 28 February 1973, the details of which are not contained in your record.

On 13 August 1973 you submitted a written request for discharge for the good of the service in lieu of trial by court-martial for an unauthorized absence of 69 days. Prior to submitting this request you conferred with a qualified military lawyer who advised you of your rights and warned of the probable adverse consequences of receiving an undesirable discharge. Your request was approved by the discharge authority, and you received an undesirable discharge on 11 September 1973.

The Board carefully evaluated all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth and belief that you received no legal counsel prior to requesting discharge for the good of the service. The Board concluded that your service was properly characterized as under other than honorable conditions given your repeated acts of

misconduct. The Board believes that considerable clemency was extended to you when your request for discharge was granted, as you avoided the possibility of another conviction by courtmartial, being confined at hard labor, and receiving a punitive discharge. You received the benefit of your bargain and should not be permitted to change it now. As indicated above, you consulted with counsel before submitting your request for discharge.

In view of the foregoing, your application has been denied. The names and votes of the members of the panel will be furnished upon request.

It is regretted that the circumstances of your case are such that favorable action cannot be taken. You are entitled to have the Board reconsider its decision upon submission of new and material evidence or other matter not previously considered by the Board. In this regard, it is important to keep in mind that a presumption of regularity attaches to all official records. Consequently, when applying for a correction of an official naval record, the burden is on the applicant to demonstrate the existence of probable material error or injustice.

Sincerely,

W. DEAN PFEI

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