



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

BAN
Docket No: 08651-08
22 June 2009

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to the provisions of Title 10, 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 4 June 2009. 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 the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice.

You enlisted in the Navy on 9 October 1985, and served without disciplinary incident until 5 June 1986, when you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for being in an unauthorized absence (UA) status for 4 days.

Shortly thereafter, you received the following NJP's: on 12 December 1986, for the illegal use of drugs (cocaine) and UA; on 19 February 1987, for UA and failure to obey a lawful order; on 26 February 1988, for UA; on 20 October 1988, for UA, disrespect toward a petty officer, failure to obey a lawful regulation, being drunk on duty, and communicating a threat.

Further, on 5 May 1989, during a command urinalysis screening, you tested positive for cocaine use. Furthermore, you received the following additional NJP's: on 5 June 1989, for UA; on 20

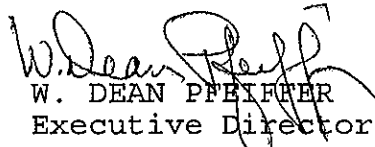
July 1989, for the illegal use of drugs (marijuana); and on 3 August 1989, for UA. You were recommended for separation with an other than honorable (OTH) discharge due to your drug abuse. The separation authority approved the recommendation and on 29 September 1989, you were separated with an OTH discharge and an RE-4 reenlistment code.

The Board, in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth and belief that enough time has elapsed to warrant upgrading your discharge. Nevertheless, the Board concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant changing the characterization of your discharge due to your misconduct. Further, there is no provision in the law or regulations that allows for recharacterization of service due solely to the passage of time. Accordingly, 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 PFEIFFER
Executive Director