



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

SJN
Docket No: 00245-10
18 October 2010

[REDACTED]

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 13 October 2010. 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 and began a period of active duty on 4 December 1979. The Board found that you received four nonjudicial punishments (NJP's) for three instances of possession of marijuana, use of marijuana, and possession of drug paraphernalia. Additionally, you were counseled and warned after your second NJP that further misconduct could result in administrative discharge action. Subsequently, administrative discharge action was initiated by reason of misconduct due to substandard performance. You waived your rights to consult counsel, submit a statement or have your case heard by an administrative discharge board (ADB). Your case was forwarded recommending that you be discharged under honorable conditions. The discharge authority concurred and directed a general discharge by reason of substandard performance. On 9 February 1982, you were so discharged.

The Board, in its review of your application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth and record of service. Nevertheless, the Board concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge

given your four NJP's, all of which were for drug abuse, and the fact that you were counseled and warned of the consequences of further misconduct. The Board noted that you waived the right to an ADB, your best chance for retention or a better characterization of service. Finally, the Board also noted that you were fortunate to receive a general discharge since a discharge under other than honorable conditions is often directed when an individual is discharge for misconduct. 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