



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

CRS  
Docket No: 12077-10  
20 January 2011

[REDACTED]

[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 5 January 2011. 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. In addition, it considered an advisory opinion from Headquarters Marine Corps dated 29 October 2010, a copy of which is enclosed.

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 Marine Corps on 16 May 1990. You received nonjudicial punishment on 9 September 1991 for unauthorized absence. On 28 December 1991 you absented yourself without authority and remained absent until 18 February 1982 for a period of 50 days.

On 26 July 1993 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 502 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 a discharge under other than honorable conditions. Your request was approved by the discharge authority, and you received a discharge under other than honorable conditions on 9 August 1993. At that time you were assigned a reentry code of RE-4 as required by governing directives.

In its review of your application, the Board considered all potentially mitigating factors, such as your contention that you were a victim of racial discrimination and that your misconduct was caused by posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). The Board found those contentions to be unsubstantiated, and insufficient to warrant corrective action in your case, given the serious nature of your offense. In addition, the Board believes that considerable clemency was extended to you when your request for discharge was approved since, by that action, you avoided the possibility of a conviction by court-martial, confinement at hard labor and a punitive discharge. Further, the Board concluded that you received the benefit of your bargain when your request for discharge was separated, and you should not be permitted to change it now. 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

Enclosure