



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS
701 S. COURTHOUSE ROAD, SUITE 1001
ARLINGTON, VA 22204-2490

TJR
Docket No: 4116-11
10 February 2012



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 7 February 2012. The names and votes of the members of the panel will be furnished upon request. 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 Marine Corps on 25 May 1983 at age 19 and began a period of active duty on 20 September 1983. You served without disciplinary incident until 10 October 1984, when you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for failure to obey a lawful order. About a year later, on 2 October 1985, you received NJP for wrongful use of cocaine and were awarded a \$694 forfeiture of pay, restriction and extra duty for 45 days, and reduction to paygrade E-2.

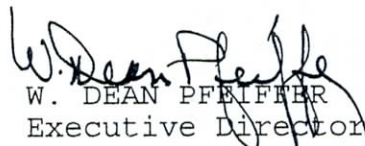
Subsequently, on 23 October 1985, you were notified of pending administrative separation action by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse. At that time you waived your right to consult with legal counsel and to present your case to an administrative discharge board (ADB). On 14 November 1985 your commanding officer recommended discharge under other than honorable

conditions by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse. On 25 November 1985 the discharge authority approved this recommendation and directed separation under other than honorable conditions by reason of misconduct and on 18 December 1985 you were so discharged.

The Board, in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth and desire to upgrade your discharge. Nevertheless, the Board concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge because of your drug related misconduct which was contrary to the Navy's "zero tolerance" policy. Further, you were given an opportunity to defend your actions, but waived your procedural right to present your case to an ADB. Accordingly, your application has been denied.

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