

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

SJN

Docket No: 6400-13

23 July 2014



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 22 July 2014. 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 and began a period of active duty on 14 July 1980. The Board found that during the period from 1 June 1982 to 5 April 1983, you received three nonjudicial punishments (NJP's) for disobedience, disrespect, using provoking words, and two instances of wrongful use of marijuana. Based on the information currently contained in your record, administrative discharge action was initiated to separate you by reason of misconduct due to wrongful drug use. 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 to the separation authority recommending that you receive an under other than honorable (OTH) discharge by reason of misconduct due to wrongful drug use. The separation authority concurred and directed an OTH discharge by reason of misconduct due to drug abuse. You were so discharged on 18 July 1983.

The Board, in its review of your application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your record of service, post service accomplishments, and desire to upgrade your discharge. Nevertheless, the Board concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge given your three NJP's, two of which involved the wrongful use of drugs. Finally, the Board noted that you waived the right to an ADB, your best opportunity for retention or a better characterization of service. 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, ent. Ctums!

> > ROBERT D. ZSALMAN

Acting Executive Director