



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

TAL  
Docket No: 801-13  
24 October 2013



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 17 October 2013. 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 31 December 1970 at age 19. On 14 June 1971, you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for unauthorized absence (UA) from your unit for a period of three days. On 16 June 1971 you were convicted by summary court-martial (SCM) of breaking restriction and failure to obey a lawful regulation. On 15 July 1971, you were convicted by special court-martial (SPCM) of conspiring to sell wrongfully marijuana, and two instances of possession and sale of marijuana. The sentence imposed was confinement. On 13 August 1971, you were notified of pending administrative separation processing with an other than honorable discharge (OTH) due to misconduct (frequent

involvement). You waived all of your procedural rights, including your right to an administrative discharge board (ADB). On 24 September 1971, you received the OTH for misconduct (frequent involvement).

The Board, in its review of your application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth and overall record of service. Nevertheless, the Board found that these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge given the seriousness of your misconduct that resulted in one NJP, an SCM and an SPCM. The Board noted that you waived the right to an ADB, your best chance for retention or a better characterization of service. Finally, there is no provision of law or in Marine Corps 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