



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

SJN
Docket No: 2114-14
24 March 2015



Dear [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.

Although your application was not filed in a timely manner, the Board found it in the interest of justice to waive the statute of limitations and consider your application on its merits. A three-member panel of the Board for Correction of Naval Records, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 11 March 2015. 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 and began a period of active duty on 16 April 1996. During the period from 20 August 1996 to 13 August 1997, you received two nonjudicial punishments (NJPs) for four instances of underage drinking, three days of unauthorized absence, and three retention warnings. On 16 September 1997, you completed intensive outpatient treatment for alcohol abuse and transferred to a continuing care program. On 8 December 1997, you were convicted by special court-martial (SPCM) of two instances of failing to go to your appointed place of duty, three instances of underage drinking, larceny, disobedience, and being incapacitated for the proper performance of duty. Subsequently, administrative discharge action was initiated by reason of misconduct due to a pattern of misconduct. After being afforded all of your procedural rights, your case was

forwarded to the separation authority recommending that you receive an other than honorable (OTH) discharge due to misconduct. On 5 May 1998, the separation authority concurred and directed an OTH discharge by reason of misconduct. You were so discharged on 9 October 1998.

The Board, in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your record of service, post service medical issues, character letters, and desire to upgrade your discharge. Nevertheless, based on the information currently contained in your record, the Board concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge given your two NJPs, conviction by SPCM, and the fact that you were warned, on more than one occasion, of the consequences of further misconduct. 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 within one year from the date of the Board's decision. New evidence is evidence not previously considered by the Board prior to making its decision in your case. 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,



ROBERT J. O'NEILL
Executive Director