



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

BAN
Docket No. NR03042-14
30 December 2014

From: Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records
To: Secretary of the Navy
Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF [REDACTED], USN,

Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C. 1552

Encl: (1) DD Form 149 with attachments
(2) Case summary

1. Pursuant to the provisions of reference (a), Petitioner, a former enlisted member of the United States Navy, filed enclosure (1) with this Board requesting, in effect, that his characterization of discharge be changed from general to honorable.

2. The Board, consisting of Mr. Chapman, Ms. White-Olson, and Mr. Green reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 22 October 2014 and, pursuant to its regulations, determined that the corrective action indicated below should be taken on the available evidence of record. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of the enclosures, naval records, and applicable statutes, regulations, and policies.

3. The Board, having reviewed all the facts of record pertaining to Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice finds as follows:

a. Before applying to this Board, Petitioner exhausted all administrative remedies available under existing law and regulations within the Department of the Navy.

b. Petitioner enlisted in the Navy on 1 April 1977, and served without any disciplinary incidents until 11 July 1978, when he received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for an unauthorized absence (UA). On 6 December 1978, Petitioner received a medical evaluation for alcohol abuse. His past indicated a history of alcohol abuse and given a six week treatment program. After treatment, Petitioner was recommended for continued use of Antabuse for six months and to attend Alcohol Anonymous meetings.

c. On 29 May 1981, Petitioner received another NJP for

failing to obey a lawful regulation by being in a restricted space.

d. On 29 June 1981, Petitioner was not eligible for reenlistment due to his frequent involvement with military authorities for a discreditable nature. However, he was allowed to separate at the end of his obligated service (three months early), and he was given a general discharge due to overall trait mark average. On 3 August 1981, he was separated with a general discharge and assigned an RE-4 (not recommended for retention) reenlistment code.

e. Character of service is based, in part, on trait marks assigned on a periodic basis. His overall trait mark average was 2.8. A 3.0 overall trait mark average was required for a fully honorable discharge.

CONCLUSION:

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record the Board concludes that Petitioner's request warrants favorable action.

The Board concludes that although Petitioner did not received a 3.0 overall trait mark average, they believed that his misconduct was due to his problems with alcohol and severe family issues that stemmed from childhood. Additionally, the Board believes that Petitioner has finally received the help he needed to correct his life and begin a productive member of society. Therefore, the Board concludes that an honorable characterization of service is authorized as an exception to policy. In view of the above, the Board recommends the following corrective action.

RECOMMENDATION:

a. That Petitioner's naval record be corrected by changing the characterization of service assigned on 3 August 1981, from general to honorable discharge.

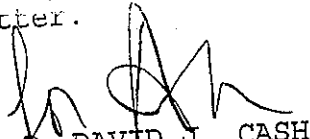
b. That any material or entries inconsistent with or relating to the Board's recommendation be corrected, removed, or completely expunged from Petitioner's record and that no such entries or material be added to the record in the future.

c. That any material directed to be removed from Petitioner's naval record be returned to the Board, together with a copy of this Report of Proceedings, for retention in a confidential file maintained for such purpose, with no cross reference being made a part of Petitioner's naval record.

d. That the Department of Veterans Affairs be informed that Petitioner applied to this Board on 7 January 2014.

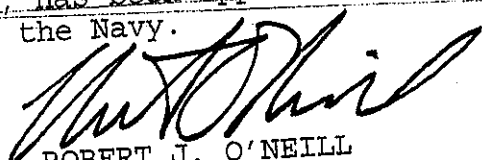
4. Pursuant to Section 6(c) of the revised Procedures of the Board for Correction of Naval Records (32 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 723.6(c) it is certified that a quorum was present at the Board's review and deliberations, and that the

foregoing is a true and complete record of the Board's proceeding
in the above entitled matter.


DAVID J. CASH
Recorder

5. Pursuant to the delegation of authority set out in Section 6(e) of the revised Procedures of the Board for Correction of Naval Records (32 Code of Federal Regulation, Section 723.6(e)) and having assured compliance with its provisions, it is hereby announced that the foregoing corrective action, taken under the authority of reference (a), has been approved by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.

30 December 2014


ROBERT J. O'NEILL
Executive director