



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

SJN
Docket No: 5417-14
24 June 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 19 June 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.

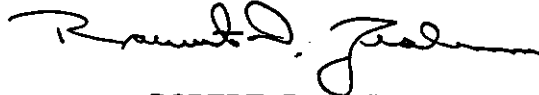
You enlisted in the Marine Corps and began a period of active duty on 19 May 1993. The Board found that on 23 October 1997, you were convicted by summary court-martial (SCM) of driving under the influence of alcohol and wrongful use of marijuana. You were sentenced to a reduction in paygrade, a forfeiture of pay, and a period of confinement. On 15 January 1998, you were convicted by special court-martial (SPCM) of wrongful use of marijuana. You were sentenced to a period of confinement, a forfeiture of pay, and a reduction in paygrade. On 19 February 1998, you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for wrongful use of marijuana. You received a forfeiture of pay, restriction and extra duty. Subsequently, administrative discharge action was initiated 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 recommending that you be discharged under other than honorable (OTH) conditions by reason of misconduct. The discharge authority concurred and directed an OTH discharge by reason of misconduct due to wrongful drug use. You were so discharged on 2 April 1998.

The Board, in its review of your application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth and record of service. Nevertheless, the Board concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge given your SCM, SPCM and NJP, all of which were for wrongful drug use. Finally, the Board noted that you waived the right to an ADB, your best chance 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,



ROBERT D. ZSALMAN
Acting Executive Director