

Correction of Military Records

The Boards for Correction of Military Records are the highest level of administrative review within each of the various services, each with the mission to correct errors in or remove injustices from military service records. While each branch of service has its own Board of Correction, the procedures are basically the same. In addition to featuring several former judge advocates who can assist service members, veterans and their family members correct military records, Tully Rinckey's military law team also includes Partner Cheri L. Cannon

, a former panel member of the U.S. Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records. Ms. Cannon's inside knowledge of the military records correction process helps clients navigate the system and obtain the best possible outcome in their cases. Overview

You apply to the Board of corrections to request that an error be corrected or an injustice be removed from your military record. Many former soldiers have certain negative past history or a punitive discharge in their military record that they would like corrected. The Board is more likely to approve a correction if you have made some changes in your life and can prove that you have been stigmatized by the negative history for an extended period of time and that it is all fairness the stigma should be lifted, i.e. AWOL 10 years ago. The Board of corrections can make these corrections. What powers does the Board have? The Board of corrections can upgrade a discharge, remove a letter of reprimand, and change the narrative reason for a discharge. For example the Board can upgrade an other than honorable (OTH) discharge received as a result of a discharge in lieu of a Courts-Martial. The Board can also remove a negative evaluation in your personnel file. This is not an all-inclusive list but just several examples of the powers of the Board. Who may apply? Active duty soldiers and former members of the Regular Army, Navy, Air Force, Army, Navy, Air Force Reserve, and Army and Air National Guard. If the former member is deceased or incompetent, the surviving spouse, next of kin, or a legal representative may apply. However, the application must include supporting documentation such as a certified copy of a marriage license, death certificate, or power of attorney as appropriate. Are there any time limits? Yes, an application must be filed within 3 years after an alleged error or injustice is discovered or reasonably should have been discovered. However, the Board has the authority to waive an application filed untimely in the interest of justice. The process takes from 8-10 months to complete. Greg T. Rinckey Esq. is a former JAG officer and is knowledgeable in working with the service Boards of Correction of military records. If you have negative history in your service records contact one of them to help you apply to the Board of Corrections of Military records. Contact the Service Members Law firm at 202-787-1900 to set up a consultation on the facts of your case. The military lawyers at Tully Rinckey PLLC are also available around the clock to assist you in your injury claims against the Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities. To learn more about the process, download Tully Rinckey's free guide to suing the Department of Veterans Affairs

. If you have further questions or need legal assistance in evaluating your claim, contact us

today at 202-787-1900 or at info@fedattorney.com.

Contact us during normal business hours via Skype

. Click on the image above to schedule a time to speak with an attorney.