

(3) subject to subsection (c), shall be allowed to appear in person and to be represented by counsel at proceedings before the board of inquiry; and

(4) shall be allowed full access to, and shall be furnished copies of, records relevant to his case, except that the board of inquiry shall withhold any record that the Secretary concerned determines should be withheld in the interest of national security.

(b) When a record is withheld under subsection (a)(4), the officer whose case is under consideration shall, to the extent that the interest of national security permits, be furnished a summary of the record so withheld.

(c) The Secretary concerned may determine that, in exceptional circumstances, the appearance of an officer before the proceedings of a board of inquiry may be via means other than in person.

(Added Pub. L. 96-513, title I, §110, Dec. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 2874; amended Pub. L. 118-159, div. A, title V, §509(a), Dec. 23, 2024, 138 Stat. 1872.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2024—Subsec. (a)(3). Pub. L. 118-159, §509(a)(1), substituted “subject to subsection (c), shall be” for “shall be”.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 118-159, §509(a)(2), added subsec. (c).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Sept. 15, 1981, but the authority to prescribe regulations under this section effective on Dec. 12, 1980, see section 701 of Pub. L. 96-513, set out as an Effective Date of 1980 Amendment note under section 101 of this title.

§ 1186. Officer considered for removal: voluntary retirement or discharge

(a) At any time during proceedings under this chapter with respect to the removal of an officer from active duty, the Secretary of the military department concerned may grant a request by the officer—

(1) for voluntary retirement, if the officer is qualified for retirement; or

(2) for discharge in accordance with subsection (b)(2).

(b) An officer removed from active duty under section 1184 of this title shall—

(1) if eligible for voluntary retirement under any provision of law on the date of such removal, be retired in the grade and with the retired pay for which he would be eligible if retired under such provision; and

(2) if ineligible for voluntary retirement under any provision of law on the date of such removal—

(A) be honorably discharged in the grade then held, in the case of an officer whose case was brought under subsection (a) of section 1181 of this title; or

(B) be discharged in the grade then held, in the case of an officer whose case was brought under subsection (b) of section 1181 of this title.

(c) An officer who is discharged under subsection (b)(2) is entitled, if eligible therefor, to separation pay under section 1174(a)(2) of this title.

(Added Pub. L. 96-513, title I, §110, Dec. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 2874; amended Pub. L. 101-510, div. A, title V, §501(f)(1), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1550.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

1990—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 101-510 substituted “section 1174(a)(2)” for “section 1174(b)”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Sept. 15, 1981, but the authority to prescribe regulations under this section effective on Dec. 12, 1980, see section 701 of Pub. L. 96-513, set out as an Effective Date of 1980 Amendment note under section 101 of this title.

§ 1187. Officers eligible to serve on boards

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), each board convened under this chapter shall consist of officers appointed as follows:

(1) Each member of the board shall be an officer of the same armed force as the officer being required to show cause for retention on active duty.

(2) Each member of the board shall be in a grade above major or lieutenant commander, except that at least one member of the board shall be in a grade above lieutenant colonel or commander.

(3) Each member of the board shall be senior in grade to any officer to be considered by the board.

(b) RETIRED OFFICERS.—If qualified officers are not available in sufficient numbers to comprise a board convened under this chapter, the Secretary of the military department concerned shall complete the membership of the board by appointing to the board retired officers of the same armed force. A retired officer may be appointed to such a board only if the retired grade of that officer—

(1) is above major or lieutenant commander or, in the case of an officer to be the senior officer of the board, above lieutenant colonel or commander; and

(2) is senior to the grade of any officer to be considered by the board.

(c) INELIGIBILITY BY REASON OF PREVIOUS CONSIDERATION OF SAME OFFICER.—No person may be a member of more than one board convened under this chapter to consider the same officer.

(d) EXCLUSION FROM STRENGTH LIMITATION.—A retired general or flag officer who is on active duty for the purpose of serving on a board convened under this chapter shall not, while so serving, be counted against any limitation on the number of general and flag officers who may be on active duty.

(Added Pub. L. 96-513, title I, §110, Dec. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 2875; amended Pub. L. 106-65, div. A, title V, §504(a), Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 590; Pub. L. 110-417, [div. A], title V, §505, Oct. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 4434.)