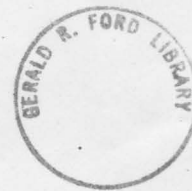


The original documents are located in Box 13, folder “Presidential Clemency Program” of the Fernando E.C. De Baca Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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PRESIDENTIAL CLEMENCY BOARD
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500



THE PRESIDENTIAL CLEMENCY PROGRAM

WHAT IS IT?

HOW DOES IT WORK?

On September 16, 1974, President Ford announced a program of clemency for persons with Selective Service draft violations or desertion or AWOL from the armed services.

Why did the President announce the Program?

President Ford wishes to heal the divisions caused by the Viet Nam War and to enable persons with draft-evasion or AWOL offenses to gain their way back into society.

Who is eligible?

Any person who committed a draft-evasion offense or went AWOL or deserted from the armed forces between August 4, 1964 and March 28, 1973.

Who runs the Clemency Program?

Three agencies administer the program.

The Presidential Clemency Board administers the program for people who have been tried and convicted for a draft-evasion offense. It also deals with cases of people who have been court-martialed for desertion or AWOL, or who have an undesirable discharge for AWOL.

The Department of Defense runs the program for persons who are now absent without authority from the armed services.

The Department of Justice runs the program for people who committed a draft-evasion offense but who have not been tried and convicted.

How do you apply?

That depends on your own case.

If you are now absent from the Armed Services — Contact any military base or Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indianapolis, Indiana. (317) 542 - 3417

If you think you violated the draft laws but have not been convicted — Contact any U. S. Attorney's Office, or the Department of Justice, Washington, D. C. (202) 456 - 6476

How long do you have to apply?

You must apply before March 3, 1975, whatever your case.

What will happen?

If your case belongs to the Justice Department or Defense Department, you will make an agreement to perform alternative service for up to 24 months.

If you were AWOL, you receive an undesirable discharge. After you satisfactorily perform your alternative service, you will get a clemency discharge.

If you have a draft-evasion case, it will be dismissed and you will not be prosecuted after you complete the alternative service.

What happens if you were discharged for AWOL or desertion or convicted of draft-evasion?

You write to the Presidential Clemency Board, The White House, Washington, D. C., and ask to be considered for clemency. The Board will review your case. It will decide whether to recommend clemency to the President.

What kind of clemency can you get from the Presidential Clemency Board?

In special cases, the President can grant an immediate, full and unconditional pardon.

In other cases, he will grant Conditional Clemency. This means you will have to perform up to 24 months alternative service before the President grants a full pardon.

In some cases, the President may decide not to grant a pardon or conditional clemency.

What is Alternative Service?

This is not punishment, but a means of earning clemency. It consists of working for qualified employers such as hospitals, charities, and other kinds of public service jobs.

Where can you find out more about the Clemency Program?

If you have any questions call the Presidential Clemency Board, The White House, Washington, D. C. (202) 456 - 6476

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