

MILPERSMAN 1910-302

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS ON CHARACTERIZATION OF SERVICE

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|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
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1. **Policy.** Characterization of service upon separation shall be based on the following:

NOTE: For determining characterization of service for members separating at expiration of active obligated service (OBLISERV) refer to [MILPERSMAN 1910-104](#).

a. The quality of the member's service, including the reason for separation, subject to the limitations set forth under the specific reason for separation. The quality of service shall be determined according to standards of acceptable personal conduct and performance of duty.

b. The reason for separation, the specific circumstances that form the basis for the separation, as well as the military record, shall be considered on the issue of characterization. Generally, characterization will be based upon the member's total performance of duty and conduct during the current enlistment; however, there are circumstances where the conduct or performance of duty reflected by a single incident may form the basis of characterization. A single adverse incident such as discreditable involvement with civil/military authorities that is prejudicial to good order and discipline may be used to characterize a Sailor's overall service. The incident does not have to result in punishment (nonjudicial punishment (NJP), court-martial, civil conviction).

c. Due consideration shall be given to the member's length of service (LOS), grade, aptitude, and physical and mental condition.