



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services Articles of Interest: 6 – 19 January 2018

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

1. [Army Mentors Prepare High Schoolers for Success](#)

(5 Jan) 345th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, By Army Sgt. Christopher Hernandez

Young men and women train with soldier mentors, elite members of the Army fit to provide professional guidance and inspiration.

2. [Immigration reform: An Army recruitment opportunity](#)

(8 Jan) *The Hill*, By Eric Fanning

Congress is contemplating the passage of the Dream Act, which would establish protections and a pathway to citizenship for Dreamers. If passed, this legislation would not only provide temporary work permits and protection from deportation for millions of young people, it would also be a tremendous opportunity for the U.S. Army to expand its pool of high-quality recruits — tapping into exactly the kind of people that make our military the greatest in the world.

3. [Military vs. civilian: Which pays better?](#)

(9 Jan) *Military Times*, By Andrew Tilghman and Tara Copp

Do military service members make more money than civilians over a career? For example, would 18-year-olds who graduated high school in 2000 be wealthier today if they had enlisted and served through 2018, or would they have made more money if they had spent those years working in the civilian workforce?

4. [Recruits from 10 southern states less likely to be fit, study finds](#)

(11 Jan) *Army Times*, By Nicole Bauke

Obesity and lack of physical fitness in 10 Southern states present a difficulty for the Army in finding recruits there, and pose a risk to national security, according to a new study.

5. [Navy recruiter arrested on suspicion of sexually abusing a minor](#)

(11 Jan) *Navy Times*, By J.D. Simkins

A Oregon-based sailor is in jail on suspicion of using his position as a Navy recruiter to lure at least one minor into a sexual relationship.

6. [Vermont National Guard urges passage of free tuition bill](#)

(11 Jan) *The Associated Press*, By Lisa Rathke

The Vermont National Guard and some legislators are urging passage of legislation that would give guard members free tuition to state colleges and universities, similar to what other New England states offer.

7. [What's in the Coast Guard's secret sauce for high retention?](#)

(15 Jan) *Federal News Radio*, By Scott Maucione

The Coast Guard touts some of the highest retention rates in the military. The rate usually clocks in the mid to upper 90 percent range. The way the service is keeping such a larger percentage of its force is through careful policy crafting, attentive leadership and programs that help circumvent the military's rigid promotion system, Coast Guard Commandant Adm. Paul Zukunft told Federal News Radio in an exclusive interview.

8. [**Eight transgender volunteers apply to join the Air Force after courts ordered policy change**](#)
(16 Jan) USA Today, By Tom Vanden Brook
Before late February Defense Secretary Jim Mattis is scheduled to introduce a new policy regarding transgender troops now serving and those wishing to join the military.
9. [**'Warrior caste': Is a public disconnect hurting military recruiting efforts?**](#)
(18 Jan) Military Times, By Charlsy Panzino
Military leaders are looking for the best ways to recruit the next generation of troops amid a growing divide between the military and civilians.

EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

10. [**This armor could be thinner than a hair and stronger than a diamond**](#)
(9 Jan) Army Times, By Ken Chamberlain
You wouldn't expect wrapping yourself in aluminum foil to offer much protection in combat. But what if the foil was far lighter and could stop bullets?
11. [**New recruits get acquainted with Parris Island**](#)
(9 Jan) Military Times, By Ken Chamberlain
A whole new group of recruits arrived at Parris Island, S.C. , this week for 12 weeks of fun and relaxation.
12. [**Africom Develops New Tool to Measure Women's Progress**](#)
(12 Jan) U.S. Africa Command, By Brenda Law and Cori Fleser
U.S. Africa Command has developed a new tool designed to measure progress in advancing women, peace and security as part of its security cooperation effort.
13. [**DoD Seeks to Connect With America Through 'This Is Your Military' Initiative**](#)
(18 Jan) DoD News, Defense Media Activity, By Lisa Ferdinando
The Defense Department is launching an initiative called "This Is Your Military" to highlight the work of service members, dispel myths about military service, and increase awareness among the American people, the deputy assistant to the secretary of defense for outreach announced today.

WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

14. [**If You Want Women to Move Up, You Have to Accommodate Mothers**](#)
(4 Jan) Wall Street Journal, By Rebecca Johnson
In subsequent discussions with women concerning what it would mean for organizations to "get comfortable with motherhood," two themes emerged: Working moms need flexibility in how they get their job done, and they want recognition of their professional commitment and abilities. To the extent organizations can meet these two needs, they are well-positioned to retain female talent and enjoy the advantages of a diverse leadership team.
15. [**This Marine tried to stop misogyny in the military. Now he'll take on the Pentagon from outside.**](#)
(8 Jan) Washington Post, By Dan Lamothe
Col. Scott Jensen was hopeful. After months of research, he and his team at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., had compiled a briefing for general officers that suggested new ways to tackle an online culture of misogyny, harassment and retaliation among Marines. The December 2014 plan was forwarded to Marine Corps headquarters. [However,] the effort fizzled...twenty-seven months later, a scandal erupted.
16. [**Air Force Academy cadet to face court-martial**](#)
(9 Jan) Air Force Times, By Charlsy Panzino
Cadet 4th Class Sammy Tawakkol is charged with two specifications of violating Article 80 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, according to an Academy news release. These specifications allege that Tawakkol attempted to "knowingly and wrongfully photograph the private areas of various females without their consent, and under circumstances in which the females had a reasonable expectation of privacy."

17. [**Air Force Academy cadet pleads guilty in special court-martial**](#)
(11 Jan) Air Force Times, By Charlsy Panzino
 “I want to thank those brave victims of this disgusting act who came forward to ensure this didn’t happen to anyone else and also to encourage those who see something to say something — there’s no place for this kind of behavior at the Academy or in the Air Force,” Lt. Gen. Jay Silveria, the academy superintendent, said in the release.
18. [**Air Force nurse refused to provide contraception to patients on religious grounds**](#)
(11 Jan) Air Force Times, By Stephen Losey
 A sign apparently posted by a nurse practitioner at the women’s health clinic at Whiteman Air Force Base in Missouri that told patients she would not provide them with contraception has been removed, officials told Air Force Times.
19. [**Paternity leave for sailors will soon double, Navy says**](#)
(18 Jan) Navy Times, By Mark D. Faram
 The Navy expects to double the amount of paid paternity leave sometime in the next month from 10 to 21 days, according to a Federal News Radio report.
20. [**Air Force Academy cadet to face court-martial for sexual assault**](#)
(18 Jan) Air Force Times, By Stephen Losey
 A senior at the Air Force Academy will face a court-martial next week on charges of sexual assault and abusive sexual contact.

SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

21. [**First female F-16 pilot graduates from USAF Weapons School**](#)
(4 Jan) U.S. Air Force Weapons School, By Susan Garcia
 As the U.S. Air Force closed its 70th year of breaking barriers, the U.S. Air Force Weapons School (USAFWS) 16th Weapons Squadron Class 17B graduated its first female F-16 Weapons Instructor Course pilot. Capt. Clancy Morrical, 480th Fighter Squadron instructor pilot assigned to Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, credited windows of opportunity that opened when her tactical and leadership skills were ready for the challenge.
22. [**General Officer Assignment**](#)
(8 Jan) IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-006-18)
 The chief of staff, Air Force announces the assignment of the following general officer: Brig. Gen. Jeannie M. Leavitt, commander, 57th Fighter Wing, Air Combat Command, Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, to commander, Air Force Recruiting Service, Air Education and Training Command, Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas.
23. [**Kansas rancher was one of the few female pilots of World War II**](#)
(8 Jan) The Wichita Eagle, By Beccy Tanner
 Meriem Lucille Roby Anderson lived her life as a feisty, independent Flint Hills rancher up until a few months ago, when she suffered a debilitating fall. The 96-year-old was tough as nails and had spent a lifetime creating a legacy. She was a member of the Women Airforce Service Pilots, an elite group of more than 1,000 women who flew aircraft during World War II.
24. [**Retired Navy commander to challenge former SEAL for House seat**](#)
(9 Jan) The Associated Press
 A retired Navy commander says she plans to challenge the former Navy SEAL who represents Virginia’s 2nd Congressional District. Elaine Luria spent 20 years in the Navy, deploying to the Middle East and commanding and assault craft unit.
25. [**Anna Mae Hays, US military’s first female general, dies at 97**](#)
(9 Jan) Army Times, By Ken Chamberlain
 Army Brig. Gen. Anna Mae Hays, the first female general in U.S. history, died Sunday at a retirement home in Washington, D.C., the Washington Post reports. Hays, who retired almost 50 years ago, was 97.
26. [**Police say ex-boyfriend killed Navy officer in murder-suicide**](#)
(9 Jan) Navy Times, By J.D. Simkins
 A Navy officer, Lt. Claire Elizabeth VanLandingham, 27, was fatally shot last week in Lake Forest, Illinois, in an alleged murder-suicide committed by a man authorities believe was her ex-boyfriend.

WOMEN VETERANS

27. [Veterans' Group Calls on Troops to Own the 'Me Too' Movement](#)

(7 Jan) *Military.com*, By Hope Hedge Seck

On Monday, the Service Women's Action Network plans to hold a demonstration outside the Pentagon that aims to bring the "#MeToo" sexual assault awareness movement home to the military.

28. ['Served Like a Girl' is a moving documentary on problems plaguing female veterans](#)

(8 Jan) *The Grio*, By Cortney Wills

Served Like a Girl is an eye-opening documentary that follows four female veterans as they compete in the annual Ms. Veteran America competition. Through their stirring stories, viewers get a glimpse of the many problems plaguing women in the military on and off the battlefield.

29. ['Where's our reckoning?' Military women gather outside Pentagon in #MeToo protest](#)

(9 Jan) *Stars and Stripes*, By Dianna Cahn

Bearing signs like "Denial is not a policy" and "Veterans demand reform," Monday's protesters want the Pentagon to take increased action to stop sexual assault by changing what several called a misogynistic military culture and taking military sexual assault cases out of the hands of commanders — a proposal that military leadership has blocked saying it undermines command authority.

30. [WWII vet on why she enlisted: 'I said, 'why can't I do that?''](#)

(11 Jan) *WGN9*, By Erin Ivory

Opal Waldman may only be 4 feet 11 inches, but don't let her size fool you; she's been a powerhouse since she was a young girl growing up on a farm outside Grayslake, Ill., She's also one of the few living women who joined the Women's Army Corps during WWII.

31. [A 90-year-old is suing the Air Force — 62 years after she was kicked out for being a lesbian](#)

(13 Jan) *Air Force Times*, By Nicole Bauke

Airman Second Class Helen Grace James service was cut short after she was investigated, interrogated and then given an "undesirable" discharge from the Air Force because she was a lesbian. Now, more than 60 years later, she is suing the Air Force. "It has crippled her throughout her life," her attorney, J. Cacilia Kim, told The Post. "This is really so she's not treated as a second-class citizen anymore."

32. [12th honor flight planned for Nebraska veterans — this time for women only](#)

(16 Jan) *Lincoln Journal Star*, By Peter Salter

More than 650 Vietnam vets to Washington last year, just one was a woman.