



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

Articles of Interest

27 September 2019



RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

- [Why DoD should start asking recruits whether they vape](#)**
(13 Sep) Military Times, By Meghann Myers
The Defense Department needs to update its records to better track the use of e-cigarettes in the ranks, according to a military manpower expert with CNA, a nonprofit research and analysis organization in Arlington, Virginia, the same way it keeps records of which troops are smokers.
- [West Point has changed how cadets are assigned branches — ROTC will soon follow](#)**
(13 Sep) Army Times, By Kyle Rempfer
West Point's class of 2020 will serve as the first users of a new branch assignment system this fall, which the Army hopes will help with the retention of junior officers and better assign talent.
- [Air Force ad campaign will leverage Space Force buzz to drive recruitment](#)**
(16 Sep) Military.com, By Hope Hedge Seck
When Maj. Gen. Jeannie Leavitt, head of the Air Force's recruiting service, interacts with the public, the topic of a yet-to-be-created Space Force comes up frequently.
- [Leavitt: Less than 25 percent of USAF's "target market" is eligible to serve](#)**
(16 Sep) Air Force Magazine, By Jennifer-Leigh Oprihory
Less than a quarter of American youth in the Air Force's "target market" actually qualify to serve, USAF Recruiting Service Commander Maj. Gen. Jeannie Leavitt told reporters Sept. 16.
- [Army meets recruiting goal for 2019 after revamping how it attracts prospective soldiers](#)**
(17 Sep) Stars and Stripes, By Corey Dickstein
The Army has met its fiscal year 2019 recruiting goal, service officials said Tuesday, crediting a retooled effort focused largely on attracting young men and women through internet applications and in large cities the military had long ignored.
- [Student loan crisis, not Mideast wars, helped Army leaders exceed recruiting goals this year](#)**
(17 Sep) Army Times, By Kyle Rempfer
Army leadership gathered Tuesday to announce that they surpassed their recruiting goal for 2019, signing up more than 68,000 active duty soldiers before the end of the fiscal year, but the long wars in the Middle East weren't exactly part of the sales pitch.
- [Total force' recruiting aims to help prospective airmen envision all the ways they can serve](#)**
(17 Sep) Air Force Times, By Stephen Losey
The Air Force is trying to break down the walls between how it recruits active-duty, Air National Guard and Air Reserve airmen as it moves to a new "total force recruiting" strategy.
- [Army Surpasses Recruiting Goal, Attracts More Women to Sign Up](#)**
(17 Sep) Military.com, By Matthew Cox
U.S. Army leaders declared victory Tuesday over the service's recruiting crisis, announcing that it had exceeded its fiscal 2019 goals for recruiting and retention and increased the number of women in its active-duty ranks.
- [One casualty of the tight job market: U.S. Army recruitment](#)**
(18 Sep) CBS News, By Aimee Picchi
The U.S. Army's slogan — "Warriors Wanted" — is taking on an added layer of meaning amid a historically tight job market. Young Americans have more employment options than in previous generations, prompting the army to lower its recruitment goal this year and overhaul its outreach efforts.



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EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

10. [Female CEOs Blast 'Forbes' List Of Innovative Leaders That Includes Only One Woman](#)
(11 Sep) NPR, By Lauren Hodges and Mary Louise Kelly
Amazon boss Jeff Bezos and Tesla's Elon Musk tied for the top spot. The only woman on the list, Barbara Rentler, CEO of Ross Stores, clocked in at 75. The reaction to the glaring lack of women was swift and sharp.
11. [Study explores the idea of allowing some military reservists to work from home or be non-deployable](#)
(13 Sep) Military Times, By Meghann Myers
The military's reserve component has a chronic under-manning problem. A new report from RAND Corp. suggests some ways to fix that, including some ideas that would rock the traditional structure of military service, even for part-timers.
12. [Meet the first all-female aircrew of the Air Force's 'Combat King'](#)
(16 Sep) We Are The Mighty, By 2nd Lt. Kaylin Hankerson
On Sept. 6, 2019, six airmen from the 347th Rescue Group completed the HC-130J Combat King II's first flight to be operated by an all-female aircrew.
13. [Meet the New Wave of Female Builders](#)
(16 Sep) The Washington Post, By Maile Pingel
How women in construction are responding to sexism and isolation by creating a community — and a future — for themselves
14. [Air Force to institute new fitness requirements for commanders](#)
(17 Sep) Military.com, By Patricia Kime
Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David Goldfein has a message for commanders on their physical condition: Get on a fitness program or your job is at risk.
15. [After PT deaths, Air Force weighs separating waist measurement from fitness test](#)
(18 Sep) Military.com, By Oriana Pawlyk
The U.S. Air Force is considering administering the abdominal circumference test at a separate time from the rest of the physical fitness assessment in order to prevent added body stress and unwanted injuries, according to the service's top enlisted leader.
16. [Air Force mulls fitness assessment changes to reduce risks from rapid weight loss](#)
(19 Sep) Stars & Stripes, By Jennifer H. Svan
The Air Force is considering changes to the way it conducts fitness assessments to prevent airmen from over-taxing their bodies to try to meet test standards, the service's top enlisted leader said.
17. [Slides showing high failure rates on new fitness test are not official CIMT documents, officials say](#)
(24 Sep) Army Times, By Kyle Rempfer
Slides shared on social media showing the pass and failure rates for soldiers taking the new Army Combat Fitness Test among a select number of battalions are not official documents from the Center for Initial Military Training, officials involved in collecting data for the new test said.



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WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

18. [After baby's death on Hawaii base, DoD calls for investigations into unauthorized daycare allegations](#)
(13 Sep) Military Times, By Karen Jowers
The Defense Department personnel chief is calling for officials to investigate reports of unauthorized daycare operations on installations, in the wake of a baby's death at Aliamanu Military Reservation earlier this year.
19. [Hilton hotels expands paid leave for new parents](#)
(16 Sep) CBS News, By Kate Gibson
Hilton is expanding paid parental leave for its workers, and the time off is the same for maids as it is for corporate executives.
20. [Academy cadet acquitted of sexual assault charge](#)
(17 Sep) Air Force Times, By Diana Stancy Correll
A cadet at the U.S. Air Force Academy who was accused of sexual assault was acquitted Friday, according to the academy.
21. [Lawmakers Hear Emotional Stories From 'Forgotten Crisis' Of Military Domestic Violence](#)
(18 Sep) NPR, By Jessica Taylor
Army Major Leah Olszewski was living with her Air Force boyfriend when he became repeatedly violent and emotionally controlling. While she was pregnant, he kicked her in the stomach, causing her to miscarry. But he has yet to face any type of consequences for domestic abuse, with the Air Force inspector general dismissing her complaints.
22. [Hearing On Military Domestic Violence](#)
(18 Sep) NPR, By Claudia Grisales (Hearing Transcript)
The House Armed Services committee held a hearing from survivors of domestic violence serving in the U.S. military and how the Pentagon has addressed their cases.
23. [Is military domestic violence a 'forgotten crisis'?](#)
(18 Sep) Military Times, By Leo Shane III
House lawmakers are blasting defense officials for allowing domestic abuse to become "a forgotten crisis" in the military, saying not enough has been done to protect victims, punish attackers or even track the issue.
24. [Shattered Families, Shattered Service: Taking Military Domestic Violence Out of the Shadows](#)
(18 Sep) House Armed Services Committee Hearing Subcommittee on Military Personnel (Video Clip)
25. [Outreach Key in Addressing Domestic Violence, DOD Official Says](#)
(19 Sep) By David Vergun
Defense Department officials told Congress they're making progress in addressing domestic violence, but community coordination and outreach are key because of the large number of military families who do not live in military housing.
26. [More than 3 million U.S. women say their first sexual experience was rape](#)
(19 Sep) The Washington Post, By Kayla Epstein
A new study shows that for 6.5 percent of women ages 18 to 44, their first sexual experience was rape.



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27. [Commands protect troops and fail families in domestic abuse cases, victims say](#)

(19 Sep) Military.com, By Patricia Kime

For three years, Kate Ranta said she endured escalating abuse at the hands of her husband, Air Force Maj. Thomas Maffei. The alleged violence began when the couple lived in military housing at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, and, she said, became worse after they moved to Florida, where Maffei planned to retire. One day after a fight, she said, Maffei grabbed a gun and the couple's two-year-old and left home, only to return a short time later to convince the police that he was a war veteran who had been injured in an IED blast in Iraq.

28. [Former top enlisted Marine warns leaders to watch social media misbehavior](#)

(23 Sep) Military.com, By Gina Harkins

When the Marine Corps' top leaders were summoned to Capitol Hill two years ago to explain how they were addressing a major social media scandal, Sgt. Maj. Ronald Green called it one of the lowest points of their careers. "We never stopped to think for one second that we had male Marines doing this to our females, to our family, to the ones we love," Sgt. Maj. Green, told Military.com.

29. [Air Force reduces barriers for pregnant aviators](#)

(23 Sep) Air Force Public Affairs

Effective immediately, remotely piloted aircrew, missile operations duty crews and certain fully qualified pilots are authorized to perform their assigned duties during pregnancy without a medical waiver.

30. [New Tricare Breastfeeding Benefits Lead to Reimbursement Fiascos](#)

(24 Sep) Military.com, By Gina Harkins

Earlier this year, the Defense Health Agency (DHA) tweaked Tricare coverage for breastfeeding supplies and added a new benefit: coverage of human milk from milk banks to feed premature or sick babies in cases where supplementary feeding is necessary. The assistance has been welcomed by new moms and breastfeeding advocates, but the rollouts have not been without snags.

SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

31. [Women join ranks of cavalry scouts in Nebraska](#)

(9 Sep) Army News, By Staff Sgt. Herschel Talley

Sgt. Nicole Havlovic and Sgt. Danielle Martin are two of only a very few women serving in the Nebraska cavalry squadron.

32. [Soldier's lawsuit dismissed after claim she was forced to take anthrax vaccinations that made her sick](#)

(13 Sep) Army Times, By Kyle Rempfer

A soldier's lawsuit against the U.S. government was dismissed Thursday after she alleged that she was forced to take the anthrax vaccine three times, despite experiencing flu-like symptoms and vomiting after the first two shots.

33. [\\$11.5M settlement over Navy hospital birth in Guam](#)

(14 Sep) The Associated Press

Deardre and Daniel Bebeau Sr. — Navy petty officers living in Virginia Beach — sued for malpractice after their son was born in 2014 at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Guam.

34. [1st female airman to earn Ranger tab is now training for disaster response](#)

(18 Sep) Military.com, By Richard Sisk

What does 1st Lt. Chelsea Hibsich, the first female airman to graduate from the grueling Army Ranger School at Fort Benning, Georgia, and earn the right to wear the prestigious Ranger tab, do for an encore?



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35. [Female Ranger, Fort Riley soldier win Army Ten-Miler at Bagram](#)

(21 Sep) Stars and Stripes, By J. P. Lawrence

One of the first female graduates of the Army Ranger School won the women's race at Bagram's Army Ten-Miler shadow run, while a Fort Riley-based soldier took the top podium spot in the men's race. Army Capt. Shaye Haver of Copperas Cove, Texas, ran a pace of 7 minutes, 42 seconds to cross the line in 1 hour, 17 minutes for the women's win. Spc. Joseph Schow won in 1 hour, 7 minutes, the official results show.

WOMEN VETERANS

36. [In new book, veteran recounts Army's response to her sexual assault ordeal](#)

(16 Sep) The Day, By Julia Bergman

When an Army investigator interviewed Ryan Leigh Dostie after she reported being raped by a fellow soldier, he kept asking her why she didn't say "no."

37. [Hundreds of strangers attend funeral of Mass. Navy veteran with no local family](#)

(20 Sep) The Hill, By Brooke Seipel

Hundreds of strangers attended the funeral of 84-year-old U.S. Navy veteran Eileen Robichaud in Methuen, Mass., after it was revealed she had no local family to attend.

38. [Olga Custodio, first Latina US Air Force pilot, tells her story at Wisconsin forum](#)

(20 Sep) Leader-Telegram, By Andrew Dowd

Olga Custodio heard that the Air Force had begun recruiting women. With no Air Force recruiter nearby, she asked the local Army counterpart about aviation opportunities. "The moment he found out I was married and had a child, he kicked me out of his office," she said. Though she'd been turned down twice before, Olga Custodio said this is the first time she truly felt gender discrimination. Determined to follow the dream she'd been denied for a decade, she researched regulations, forms, medical tests, test scores and all other factors that recruiters would consider before seeing an Air Force recruiter and telling him she would only accept being a pilot.

39. [Study reveals lasting effects of sexual assault among female veterans](#)

(25 Sep) NBC News, By Nicole Edison, M.D.

The studies said 1 in 4 women in the military will experience military sexual trauma, or MST, which includes both harassment and assault, during their service. Military sexual trauma is different than combat-related trauma. Victims can have repeated contact with their attacker and limited contact with their outside support system, making them more vulnerable to developing psychological conditions.

40. [Woman Trying to End Sexual Assault at V.A. Centers Says She Is Attacked in One](#)

(26 Sep) The New York Times, By Jennifer Steinhauer

Andrea Goldstein, a reserve Navy intelligence officer and a lead staff member for the Women Veterans Task Force on the House Veterans Affairs Committee, was assaulted last week at the V.A. Medical Center in Washington by a man who slammed his body against hers and then pressed himself against her in the center's cafe.