



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services
Articles of Interest: 12 August – 1 September 2017

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

1. [**Apprenticeship Program Benefits Aircraft Carrier's Sailors**](#)
(15 Aug) USS George H.W. Bush, By Navy Seaman Darien Weigel
The apprenticeships available coincide with the work Service members are already doing on a day-to-day basis. Each certificate has a requisite amount of hours for completion. Once the hours required are completed and the certificate is received, it gives Sailors a leg up in the Navy and the civilian world.
2. [**Trump signed the 'Forever GI Bill.' Here are 11 things you should know.**](#)
(17 Aug) Military Times, By Natalie Gross
President Trump has just put his signature on a new law that will bring significant changes to education benefits for service members, veterans and their families.
3. [**Marine recruiter arrested after allegedly having sex with underage student**](#)
(19 Aug) Marine Corps Times, By Mackenzie Wolf
A Marine Corps recruiter has been arrested after allegedly having sex with an underage student, according to a news release from the Winter Haven Police Department.
4. [**Marine fitness instructor puts Kate Upton through her paces**](#)
(23 Aug) Associated Press, By Mike Householder
The U.S. Marines put supermodel Kate Upton through her paces on Tuesday during a workout in Detroit to promote the upcoming Marine Week celebration in the city.
5. [**Airlines Step Up Hiring So Air Force Boosts Retention Pay**](#)
(25 Aug) Breaking Defense, By Colin Clark
Eager to stem the flow of Air Force pilots chasing bigger paychecks and cushier gigs with America's airlines, Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson announced today the service is increasing what used to be called flight pay for the first time since 1999.
6. [**Combat vets say tattoo policy is big barrier to re-enlistment**](#)
(29 Aug) Marine Corps Times, By Jeff Schogol
Time may be the biggest factor causing combat veterans to leave the Marine Corps, but there's another reason that should not be underestimated, some vets say: the Corps' tattoo policy.

EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

7. [**Two Female John C. Stennis Sailors selected for enlisted women in submarines program**](#)
(3 Aug) The Flagship, By MCSN Adora Okafor
Two female Sailors assigned to USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74) were selected for the opportunity to be among the first enlisted women who will serve on an Ohio-class submarine as part of the Enlisted Women in Submarines (EWIS) program.
8. [**Syria's female soldiers prepare to take on Isis in battle for Raqqa**](#)
(10 Aug) Independent, By Rodi Said
The Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), an alliance of local militias supported by a US-led coalition, had given the 210 women a 15-day course in armed combat.

9. [**The Navy's First Female SEAL Officer Applicant Just Dropped Out**](#)
(10 Aug) *Task & Purpose*, By Jared Keller
The woman on track to become the first female Navy SEAL officer has voluntarily exited the training pipeline, multiple Naval Special Warfare Command sources have confirmed to Task & Purpose.
10. [**Air Force: Female airman begins TACP training**](#)
(12 Aug) *Air Force Times*, By Stephen Losey
The next female airman seeking to become a tactical air control party airman began training on Aug. 6, Air Education and Training Command said. The airman, who was not identified, is the third woman who has sought to become a TACP since it and other battlefield jobs were opened to women. And she is the second to actually begin training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland in Texas.
11. [**Mattis leaves door open for future transgender service**](#)
(15 Aug) *Military Times*, By Tara Copp
The Pentagon is working with the White House on a new transgender policy for the military services — one which may leave the door open for some transgender troops to serve, Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said Monday.
12. [**The Army is testing a new combat fitness test**](#)
(15 Aug) *Army Times*, By Meghann Myers and Charlsy Panzino
The jury is most definitely in: The Army Physical Fitness Test, for all its simplicity and efficiency, does not measure how well a soldier will perform under fire.
13. [**Despite changes, 13 Navy ratings are still 99 percent men**](#)
(18 Aug) *Navy Times*, By Geoff Ziezulewicz and Mark D. Faram
It has been more than a year and a half since the military opened all jobs across the services to women.
14. [**Trump signs memo banning transgender service**](#)
(26 Aug) *Military Times*, By Tara Copp
President Donald Trump signed a memo Friday that bans any new transgender men or women from joining the military, but also leaves it to Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis to determine the fates of transgender service members currently in uniform.
15. [**How the Army integrated its last male-only jobs, leaders first**](#)
(27 Aug) *Army Times*, By Meghann Myers
When then-Defense Secretary Leon Panetta announced in 2013 that the Defense Department would open all military occupational specialties to women, he gave the services three years to come up with a plan.
16. [**New Order: A trailblazing generation of black military servicewomen is embracing the natural hair movement**](#)
(23 Aug) *Vogue*, By Chioma Nnadi
In January of this year, the United States Army revised its grooming and appearance regulations, including its ban on dreadlocks for female soldiers. Word of the policy change spread quickly, with black servicewomen up and down the ranks posting jubilant videos to social media, some of whom had endured the discomfort of wigs and damaging straightening treatments in order to comply with the strict rules, wherein authorized hairstyles are measured down to a fraction of an inch.
17. [**Titans Women Experience G.I. Jane Day at Fort Campbell**](#)
(25 Aug) *Tennessee Titans*, By Jim Wyatt
A total of 41 women took part in G.I. Jane Day on Thursday at Fort Campbell. The 101st Airborne extended an invitation to female staff members and spouses of players and male staff members to take part in the memorable day at the Army base.
18. [**Mattis freezes transgender policy; allows troops to continue serving, pending study**](#)
(29 Aug) *USA Today*, By Tom Vanden Brook
Defense Secretary Jim Mattis late Tuesday announced that transgender troops will be allowed to continue serving in the military pending the results of a study by experts.
19. [**Senate could use defense bill to stall Trump's transgender ban**](#)
(29 Aug) *Washington Examiner*, By Travis J. Tritten
The next crucial debate over President Trump's order to roll back open transgender military service could play out in the Senate when lawmakers return next week from summer recess.

20. [Statement by Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis on Military Service by Transgender Individuals](#)
(29 Aug) IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-312-17)
The Department of Defense has received the Presidential Memorandum, dated August 25, 2017, entitled “Military Service by Transgender Individuals.” As directed, we will develop a study and implementation plan, which will contain the steps that will promote military readiness, lethality, and unit cohesion, with due regard for budgetary constraints and consistent with applicable law.

WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

21. [Here’s Another Way Working Mothers Are Penalized](#)
(9 Aug) *New Republic*, By Clio Chang
Two blockbuster stories reveal that securing basic workplace rights for mothers requires an insane amount of labor. The difficulties these women face range from the humiliating to the life-threatening.
22. [I’m a woman in computer science. Let me ladysplain the Google memo to you.](#)
(11 Aug) *Vox*, By Cynthia Lee
I have known, worked for, and taught countless men who could have written the now-infamous Google “manifesto” — or who are on some level persuaded by it. Given these facts, I’d like to treat it — and them — with some degree of charity and try to explain why it generated so much outrage.
23. [Convicted Parris Island drill instructor to be reduced in rank, reprimanded](#)
(13 Aug) *Marine Corps Times*, By Jeff Schogol
A former Parris Island drill instructor has received a relatively light sentence after being convicted of mistreating recruits.
24. [A woman who accused a former colonel of rape will be forced to pay millions in defamation damages](#)
(15 Aug) *Army Times*, By Meghann Myers
Former West Point cadet Susan Shannon took to her blog in 2013 to recount the story of being raped by a fellow cadet in 1986 while at the military academy.
25. [Commentary: To stop rape in the ranks, fix the personnel system](#)
(17 Aug) *Military Times*, By Tim Kane
The odds of an American woman being sexually assaulted are ten times higher if she is a young enlistee on a military base than a student on a college campus.
26. [NCIS investigating camera use under females’ desks at Pax River](#)
(18 Aug) *Navy Times*, By Tara Copp
A Naval Air Station Patuxent River employee is under investigation for putting video cameras under the desks of female employees, the Naval Criminal Investigative Service said Thursday.
27. [Infantry drill sergeants suspended after sexual assault allegations from female recruits](#)
(23 Aug) *Army Times*, By Meghann Myers
A group of Fort Benning, Georgia, drill sergeants has been suspended amid an investigation into multiple sexual assault allegations, a Fort Benning spokesman confirmed to *Army Times* on Wednesday.
28. [DoD’s one-stop child care portal now available worldwide](#)
(25 Aug) *Military Times*, By Karen Jowers
The online gateway designed to make it easier for military parents to find child care has finished rolling out to all Army, Air Force, Marine and Navy installations worldwide, officials said.
29. [Report: Air Force to dismiss lieutenant colonel for affair with airman](#)
(29 Aug) *Air Force Times*, By Stephen Losey
According to a charge sheet obtained by *Air Force Times* in July, Lt. Col. Denis Paquette was accused of touching the inner thigh of an unnamed, intoxicated airman first class.

30. [Court tosses suit alleging sexual aggression at West Point](#)

(31 Aug) The Associated Press, By Larry Neumeister

A former U.S. Military Academy at West Point cadet who sought judicial relief from what she described as a sexually oppressive culture that included crude chants during campus marches was told Wednesday by an appeals court to seek help from Congress instead.

SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

31. [Face of Defense: Identical Twins Serve Together in Air National Guard](#)

(11 Aug) 179th Airlift Wing, By Air Force Airman 1st Class Christi Richter

Raven Hull, a personnel specialist at the 179th Airlift Wing, and Lakota Hull, a medical administrator also at the 179th, are identical twins serving in the Air National Guard.

32. [Vermont National Guard member seeks pageant crown](#)

(14 Aug) Associated Press

A member of the Vermont National Guard will replace her camouflage fatigues with an evening gown to compete in the Miss Vermont pageant.

33. [Simone Askew is first black woman to lead West Point cadets](#)

(15 Aug) Associated Press, By Mary Esch

Simone Askew marched into history Monday as the first black woman to lead the Long Grey Line at the U.S. Military Academy.

34. [Face of Defense: Adoption Reunites Airman With Military Working Dog](#)

(21 Aug) 355th Fighter Wing, By Air Force Airman 1st Class Michael X. Beyer

After nearly a year apart, it was an emotional moment when Air Force Staff Sgt. Amanda Cabbage of the 355th Security Forces Squadron at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, and the military working dog she worked with in South Korea were reunited here Aug. 8.

35. [Learning to Listen on Denali](#)

(August 2017) The War Horse, By Pat Gault

Margaux was there to climb Denali in memory of every name she and her team had collected on their American flag. But mostly, she was there for one person: Ashly Moyer, her best friend and fellow soldier whom she'd seen killed in Iraq eight years before.

36. [Sepsis caused sailor's death last fall aboard USS Ronald Reagan, Navy says](#)

(23 Aug) Stars and Stripes, By Tyler Hlavac

Seaman Recruit Danyelle Luckey, 23, who served as a personnel specialist, died aboard the Yokosuka-based aircraft carrier on Oct. 10. A Navy statement issued at the time said a sailor had "died suddenly after a brief illness."

37. [This Army JAG Tearing Up 'American Ninja Warrior' Will Make You Question Your Life Goals](#)

(30 Aug) Task & Purpose, By Adam Weinstein

Capt. Jeri D'Aurelio, a Dallas native and active-duty soldier assigned to the 4th Infantry Division Staff Judge Advocate office, made an epic, five-obstacle dash at ANW's harsh finals course in Denver this week — epic enough to qualify her for the national finals in her third straight year competing on the grueling show.

38. [Face of Defense: Air Force Couple Takes Journey to Citizenship](#)

(31 Aug) 14th Flying Training Wing, By Air Force Staff Sgt. Chris Gross

After high school, Airman 1st Class Estefania Briceno Ron earned her bachelor's degree in psychology. But school proved to be costly and she said it was time to look at another approach to help further her education, because she wants to earn her doctorate in clinical psychology. That's where the Air Force came in.

WOMEN VETERANS

39. [Women tell of rocky adjustment to civilian life after military service](#)

(21 Aug) *Military One Click*

The female veterans who gathered in Thousand Oaks, CA survived the perils of military service and the trauma that can follow. But returning to civilian life turned out to be one of their strongest foes.

40. ['I just pulled up my pants and went back to work': Women veterans reveal the shocking sexual and physical abuse they suffered in the US armed forces](#)

(22 Aug) *Daily Mail.com*, By Ariel Zilber

Homelessness among women veterans is expected to increase at greater rates as more women in the military reintegrate into their communities following their military service, according to the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans. While women currently make up eight percent of the total veteran population and 14.6% of the active duty military, those figures are expected to increase to an estimated 16% by 2035.

41. [For these female vets, it wasn't combat trauma that led to PTSD](#)

(23 Aug) *The Philadelphia Enquirer and Daily News*, By Jen Hefler

In a survey released by the Pentagon last year, about 14,900 service members, male and female, reported they had experienced some form of sexual assault. The Pentagon also said six out of 10 reported retaliation after filing a complaint.

42. [Documentary 'Served Like a Girl' joins women vets as they empower themselves at a pageant](#)

(24 Aug) *Los Angeles Times*, By Katie Walsh

Founded by Army vet Jas Boothe, the pageant is a platform to bring support and awareness to homeless female veterans. It's an experience she lived through, finding that there was a severe lack of support at Veterans Affairs for female veterans with children, who are estimated to number 50,000 in the U.S.

43. [Female veterans compete for crown in 'Served Like a Girl'](#)

(24 Aug) *Good Day LA (Video)*

Female veterans compete for the crown of Ms. Veteran America in a new documentary, 'Served Like a Girl.'

44. [American Legion elects its first female national commander](#)

(25 Aug) *Military Times*, By Leo Shane III

American Legion members elected their first female national commander on Thursday, the second woman this month to take over the top leadership role of a major national veterans organization.

45. [DoD Clarifies Liberal Consideration for Veterans' Discharge Upgrade Requests](#)

(28 Aug) *DoD News, Defense Media Activity*, By Lisa Ferdinando

The Defense Department released guidance today to clarify the liberal consideration given to veterans who request upgrades of their discharge saying they had mental health conditions or were victims of sexual assault or sexual harassment.

46. [Lysa Heslov & Rachel Engler discuss new documentary 'Served Like a Girl'](#)

(28 Aug) *Good Day LA (Video)*

Director Lysa Heslov and U.S. Navy veteran Rachel Engler joined us on Good Day LA to discuss the new documentary "Served like a Girl," in which we hear stories from women who have served their country -- sometimes at great cost.