



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

Articles of Interest

8 – 21 September 2018

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

1. [Navy Seeks To Retain Senior Submarine Officers with New Bonus Program](#)

(11 Sep) USNI News, By Ben Werner

The Navy will begin offering large bonuses to senior captains in the submarine community – worth up to \$180,000 in some cases – in Fiscal Year 2019 to boost retention.

2. [Video: Recruiting decline a growing cause for concern](#)

(11 Sep) Military Times <Video>

Finding the next generation of military recruits may be proving to be more difficult. Over the past couple years, polls conducted by the Department of Defense show young people's interest in the military is nearing historic lows. Military Times chats with recruiters pounding the pavement day in and day out, describing a recruiting environment made more difficult by rapidly changing technology.

3. [Chief Wright: New rules on high-year tenure coming soon](#)

(12 Sep) Air Force Times, By Stephen Losey

In his first year and a half on the job, Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Kaleth Wright has been a driving force behind many changes that have improved airmen's lives — and drawn cheers from many.

4. [Here's why your child's school is asking whether you're active duty](#)

(14 Sep) Military Times, By Karen Jowers

This new military student identifier, required by law, could improve the educational experience for military children over the long term, and possibly provide extra information for parents to consider if the school is an important part of where they choose to live when assigned to a new duty station.

5. [Trump asks Supreme Court to halt release of internal documents on military transgender ban](#)

(17 Sep) Washington Examiner, By Travis J. Tritten

President Trump is asking the Supreme Court to intervene and halt a federal court order that he turn over thousands of emails and internal documents related to his decision last year to ban transgender people from military service.

6. [A new push to recruit and retain the best candidates for the infantry](#)

(19 Sep) Army Times, By Todd South

Members of a task force focused on grunts and special operations troops are finding ways to make infantry a top choice and not a last resort for entry-level recruits.

7. [The Army is trying to find criminal conduct among immigrant recruits, email shows](#)

(19 Sep) Washington Post, By Alex Horton

The lawsuits and public pressure made it clear: The Army had a problem. In August, it reversed its decision to expel dozens of immigrant recruits who were seeking expedited citizenship by serving in the U.S. military.

8. [Face of Defense: Soldier Leads Way in Special Recruiter Assistance Program](#)
(19 Sep) *1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade, By Army Sgt. 1st Class Victor Gardner*
SRAP brings a total of 3,000 soldiers to recruiting stations across the nation. Each soldier spends 30 days supporting local outreach efforts to create awareness of the Army lifestyle and career opportunities in an area where they have lived, worked or have a significant personal tie.

EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

9. [New Fitness Test Measures Combat Readiness, Army Secretary Says](#)
(7 Sep) *Army News Service, By David Vergun*
"If you can't pass the Army Combat Fitness Test, then there's probably not a spot for you in the Army," said Secretary of the Army Mark T. Esper. Beginning October 2020, all soldiers will be required to take the ACFT, which TRADOC fitness researchers term "gender- and age-neutral."
10. [17-year-old homecoming queen kicks game-winning field goal](#)
(10 Sep) *CBS Evening News, By John Blackstone*
Soon after 17-year old Kaylee Foster was crowned high school homecoming queen in Ocean Springs, Mississippi, she took off her tiara and put on helmet No. 15. In the homecoming game, as place kicker, she scored two field goals. The kick made her an instant star on social media.
11. [One of the First Women in the Infantry Will Be Discharged From the Marines](#)
(12 Sep) *New York Times, By Thomas Gibbons-Neff*
Both the commanding officer of the Fourth Marine Regiment and the commanding general of the Third Marine division recommended no disciplinary action. Colonel Norton wrote that from an "institutional point of view, we did not set up Sgt. Cruz for success" and said the fraternization was the result of an "inadequate knowledge of and guidance to young Marines from the battalion chain of command."
12. [Here's the Army's Tip Sheet for Acing Its New Combat Fitness Test](#)
(15 Sep) *Military.com, By Matthew Cox*
Army fitness officials recently released the manual for the upcoming Army Combat Fitness Test. "While the ACFT is backed by thorough scientific research and has undergone several revisions, there are still details that have not been finalized," according to the ACFT Field Testing Manual. "The purpose of the Field Test is to refine the field administration and scoring."
13. [Army Fitness Test a Jarring Wake-Up Call](#)
(15 Sep) *Military.com, By Matthew Cox*
Staff Sgt. Rebecca Alvarez was one of hundreds of soldiers who volunteered for the pilot test with no knowledge of the events. The old test, because it was normative-based data and male and female and aged, it was basing you on how well you do against your compatriots, your peers. This new test isn't about how well you do against your peers. This test is about how well you do against the Army standard."

WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

14. [Campus Rape - A Complex Legal Landscape](#)
(Summer 2018, Vol. 26, No. 2) *American Bar Association, By Erin Gordon*
Though studies show as many as one in four women are raped or sexually assaulted while in college, many campus violence cases are far from clear-cut. They sometimes involve alcohol, a mixture of consensual and non-consensual acts, and a lack of witnesses. And campus resolution procedures are often unclear, unreliable, and inconsistent, resulting in damaging divisions—between men and women, and between advocates for the victims and those for the accused—within university communities.
15. [Ariana Grande reminds us women have no safe place in America](#)
(4 Sep) *CNN, By Danielle Campoamor*
The majority of us have felt what Grande undoubtedly felt on that stage: the undeniable fear that accompanies a violation; the need to keep everyone around you happy while you're internally screaming; the cultural expectation to keep smiling while your bodily autonomy is wholly dismissed. To watch it play out at a funeral is not to be shocked by what you've witnessed, but to be reminded that women -- no matter how powerful or famous -- are not granted the same public safety as men.

16. [**Ballerina sues New York City Ballet over alleged sharing of nude photos by member of company: ‘My body was violated’**](#)
(7 Sep) ABC News, By Justin Doom
A 19-year-old ballerina who's suing New York City Ballet. Alexandra Waterbury, a former student, filed a lawsuit in New York State Supreme Court that lists as defendants City Ballet and former principal dancer Chase Finlay, whom she dated and who allegedly shared naked photos of her with other male performers.
17. [**On Being Raped By My Commander**](#)
(7 Sep) Task & Purpose, By Meredith Mathis
Story of a medically retired officer: “I was a brand new lieutenant. He was my company commander, a senior captain nearly 10 years older than I. Over the first few months as his freshly minted executive officer, he groomed me for subservience and complicity. I was young, naïve, and reeked of insecurity – an easy target for manipulation.”
18. [**New Defense Bill Increases Scrutiny for Security Clearance of Those Convicted of Sexual**](#)
(8 Sep) Ops Lens, By Katie Begley
Section 542 of the 2019 National Defense Authorization Act requires the Secretary of Defense to review the security clearances of military personnel convicted of certain crimes. The section instructs the Secretary to open an investigation when an individual is found guilty of sexual assault, sexual harassment, fraud against the United States or “any other violation that the Secretary determines renders that individual susceptible to blackmail or raises serious concern regarding the ability of that individual to hold a security clearance.”
19. [**Rape of female soldiers at all-time high**](#)
(9 Sep) Daily Star, By Patrick Williams
More than 250 female troops claim they have been raped or sexually assaulted in the last three years. More than 130 servicewomen – mainly soldiers – have said they were victims of sex attacks last year alone. That works out at one every two working days.
20. [**UCMJ crackdown: Why Mattis thinks commanders have gone soft on misconduct**](#)
(10 Sep) Military Times, By Geoff Ziezulewicz
The number of courts-martial and other severe punishments meted out to misbehaving troops across the military has steadily declined in recent years, raising concerns at the Pentagon’s highest levels that some commanders have gone soft on traditional military discipline.
21. [**Pregnant airmen asked to join new uniform wear test at Wright-Patterson**](#)
(10 Sep) Military.com, By Hope Hedge Seck
As the Air Force moves forward with rolling out better-fitting maternity uniforms, pregnant airmen at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio are being asked to offer their feedback for final tweaks.
22. [**Career Fair for Women in the Military Accused of Discriminating Against Men**](#)
(11 Sep) NBC San Diego, By Paul Krueger, Dorian Hargrove, and Tom Jones
A men’s rights organization has criticized the City and County of San Diego for participating in an upcoming job fair event for female military members. The National Coalition For Men (NCFM) sent a letter asking organizers to postpone the “San Diego Military Women Careers Event.” The event is planned for Naval Base San Diego. Military Inclusion, the group that organized the career fair, is promoting the event for “women veterans, active duty women and spouses.”
23. [**11 troops kicked out after court-martial in wake of Marines United scandal**](#)
(13 Sep) Military.com, By Hope Hedge Seck
The Marine Corps continues to wade through prosecutions of active-duty troops found to have been involved in the swapping of nude photos of troops through the "Marines United" Facebook page last year, or other social media misconduct.
24. [**70 percent of Marine commander firings this year due to bias, disrespect**](#)
(13 Sep) Military.com, By Hope Hedge Seck
The Marine Corps is continuing an aggressive top-down push to root out gender-based bias and a culture of disrespect in the service. In an address to the Pentagon’s Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS) at a quarterly meeting near Washington, D.C., this week, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. Glenn Walters said that five of the seven Marine commanders removed from their posts to date this year displayed a "nexus" of these cultural issues.

25. [Most Marine commanders fired this year were over equal opportunity concerns](#)
(14 Sep) Military Times, By Shawn Snow
The Corps is still amid plans to overhaul its culture in the wake of the nude photo sharing scandal known as Marines United that rocked the Corps last year. Five out of seven Marine commanders that were sacked were relieved over some equal opportunity concerns or bias, according to comments made by the Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. Glenn Walters at Tuesday's Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services meeting.
26. [DAC-IPAD Submitted Recommendations to Secretary of Defense](#)
(14 Sep) IMMEDIATE RELEASE
The Defense Advisory Committee on Investigation, Prosecution, and Defense of Sexual Assault in the Armed Forces (DAC-IPAD) submitted recommendations to the Secretary of Defense. Article 140a requires the development of uniform standards and criteria across the Military Services, to be used at all stages of the military justice system. The goals of Article 140a are to achieve greater efficiency and transparency in the processing of cases in the military justice system and to facilitate periodic reviews of the UCMJ and Manual for Courts-Martial.
27. [Commanders must stop boycotting the UCMJ](#)
(17 Sep) Military Times, By Franklin D. Rosenblatt
Defense Secretary James Mattis's recent memorandum "Discipline and Lethality" calls for commanders to address illegal conduct with the tools of the military justice system and to ween from an overreliance on administrative measures. This is a welcome and needed change to end what has become a boycott of the UCMJ.
28. [Report ranking military installations for sex assault risk delayed](#)
(19 Sep) Military Times, By Tara Copp
The Pentagon is finalizing the release of a potentially explosive report that will rank individual military installations and ships based on the likelihood service members may experience sexual harassment or sexual assault there.
29. [Sen. Tammy Duckworth: How We Can End the Maternal Death Epidemic](#)
(19 Sep) Fortune, By Tammy Duckworth
When I gave birth to Maile this past April, I became the first U.S. senator to have a child while serving in office. And when I carried her into the chamber for a vote 10 days later, she became the first newborn ever allowed onto the Senate floor. But through my nine months of pregnancy—and my time in labor—I wasn't thinking about making history. I was thinking about staying healthy. Because I've seen the stats. I've read the horror stories. And I know that here in the U.S., expectant and new moms are still dying at truly horrifying rates.

SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

30. [First Woman Takes Rein of Naval Submarine Medical Research Laboratory](#)
(5 Sep) DVIDS, By Naval Medical Research Center
Naval Submarine Medical Research Laboratory (NSMRL) held a change of command ceremony topside of the world's first nuclear submarine USS Nautilus (SSN-571) at the Submarine Force Library and Museum, Naval Submarine Base Groton, London, Aug. 6. During the ceremony, presided over by Rear Adm. Paul D. Pearigen, commander of Navy Medicine West, Capt. Kim Lefebvre, the first woman to take the reins of NSMRL, assumed command from Capt. Fred Yeo.
31. [Meet the U.S. Air Force Reserve's First Female F-35A Lightning II Pilot](#)
(8 Sep) The Aviationist, By Tom Demerly
Colonel Regina Sabric, callsign "Torch", of Tobyhanna, Pennsylvania has become the first female Lockheed Martin F-35A Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter pilot in the U.S. Air Force Reserve.
32. [Former security forces airman sentenced to 10 years in deaths](#)
(9 Sep) The Associated Press
A former Air Force security forces airman, Shade Cooper, has been sentenced to a decade in prison for the deadly crash that followed her high-speed pursuit of a car carrying her estranged husband and another woman.

33. [Army sergeant's mistress gets 17 years in killing of soldier wife](#)
(9 Sep) The Associated Press
 A federal judge has sentenced a Texas woman to 17 years in prison for helping a U.S. Army sergeant with whom she had an affair kill his soldier wife, 24-year-old Pfc. Karlyn Ramirez.
34. [Face of Defense: New Hampshire Airman Serves as Translator in El Salvador](#)
(11 Sep) 157th Air Refueling Wing, By Air Force Staff Sgt. Kayla White
 New Hampshire Air National Guard Staff Sgt. Kirsten E. Arends traveled to the capital of El Salvador as part of the National Guard Bureau's State Partnership Program, which has joined El Salvador and the state of New Hampshire as strategic partners since 2000.
35. [First woman to lead Citadel's cadets says academy has changed "180 degrees" for women](#)
(12 Sep) CBS This Morning, Profiles in Service Video
 Sarah Zorn might be a historical first but in her mind, what is first, are her fellow cadets. "I didn't want to do it because I wanted to be this 'shatterer of glass ceilings'. I wanted to provide the best opportunity to leave the corps better for tomorrow," Zorn said. "There is a long and lengthy history of the struggles that women felt here, but I feel like we've come 180 degrees from where we were 20 years ago," Zorn said.
36. [Army officer, 'Amazing Race' runner-up vies for Ms. Veteran America crown](#)
(12 Sep) Stars and Stripes, By Wyatt Olson
 Army Lt. Col. Tara Carr has every intention of claiming the title of Ms. Veteran America as she competes against 24 other finalists next month in Los Angeles.
37. [Face of Defense: Former Drill Sergeant Brings Leadership Experience to Commissioned Service](#)
(13 Sep) 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, By Army Staff Sgt. Neysa Canfield
 As the medical provider here, Army Capt. Jennifer Hawkins works closely with enlisted health care specialists to ensure service members throughout Kandahar Air Field receive proper medical care. However, unlike for most officers, this is familiar and comfortable territory for Hawkins. The soldier from 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment, wears the evidence on her right front pocket; the Army Drill Sergeant Identification Badge. She attributes her success to her experience as an enlisted soldier.
38. [Navy chief petty officer found dead in her Jacksonville home filed for protective order 2 weeks ago](#)
(17 Sep) First Coast News, By WTLV Staff
 About two weeks ago, a Duval County judge granted Andrea Washington a protective order because of domestic violence at her home. Family friend told First Coast News that Washington just got pinned Friday for Navy Chief Petty Officer.
39. [To have and to hold, in Lancer or Spirit bombers: Trailblazing husband-wife pilots retire together](#)
(19 Sep) Air Force Times, By J. D. Simkins
 Lt. Col. Jennifer Avery was just a child when she realized she wanted to fly. A trip from her hometown of Miami to visit a relative at a South Carolina Air Force base left a lasting impression after her uncle took her for a spin in a flight simulator.

WOMEN VETERANS

40. [The Many Roles of Women in War: Sniper, Pilot, Death Camp Guard](#)
(29 Aug) The New York Times Magazine, By Andrea N. Goldstein
 In 1948, the year that women were first accepted as regular members of the armed forces, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower testified before the House Armed Services Committee that he was initially "horror struck" by the idea of women in the military but changed his mind after he saw them in action. During the war, Gen. George C. Marshall commissioned a study to measure the effectiveness of mixed-gender combat units. He and his staff were stunned by the finding that they performed better than all-male units. As the historian D'Ann Campbell discovered in 1993, the study was buried, because the general staff was concerned that the American public and Congress were opposed to expanding women's roles in the armed forces.
41. [Ida Lewis is the first woman with a dedicated street in Arlington National Cemetery](#)
(6 Sep) ConnectingVets.com, By Elizabeth Howe
 In 154 years, none of the 40 roads within Arlington National Cemetery have been named for women — until today. This afternoon, Arlington National Cemetery officially dedicated their Millennium expansion and unveiled two new streets. One of these streets, Lewis Drive, is named for Ida Lewis, the first female commemorated with a street name in the national cemetery.

42. [Secretary promises VA will be more ‘welcoming’ to women veterans](#)

(7 Sep) *Military Times*, By Leo Shane III

Veterans Affairs Secretary Robert Wilkie said his department “needs to be more welcoming to women veterans” and promised improvements at the bureaucracy in months to come. Wilkie did not offer specifics on policies or programs to “make sure the needs of our fighting women are taken care of,” but he did acknowledge that women veterans are the fastest growing demographic group under the department’s watch.

43. [VA Must Prove to Women Vets That They Belong](#)

(12 Sep) *Military.com*, By Joy Ilem

As noted in the DAV's new report, *Women Veterans: The Journey Ahead*, women are the fastest-growing subpopulation of the military and veteran communities, representing more than 15 percent of active-duty military and 10 percent of veterans, but many still face significant barriers accessing VA services and benefits. Despite earnest efforts to improve the situation in recent years, longstanding administrative, budgetary and leadership shortcomings at the VA have hampered the department's ability to consistently meet the needs of women veterans at all VA access points.

44. [Female veterans push for eligibility for spouses to join American Legion Auxiliary](#)

(16 Sep) *Military Times*, By Courtney Blackann

The veterans of American Legion Post 204 — the “Service Girls” — as they’re known in their Pacific Northwest home, are speaking out about the American Legion’s membership policies, which currently exclude the spouses of female veterans in every branch of their organization.