



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services Articles of Interest 1 March 2019

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

1. [Why the military should consider a waiver for high-functioning autism](#)
(17 Feb) Military Times, By James Strack
Serving in the military is both an honor and a service to those who volunteer in this great country of the United States of America. However, many potential volunteers are disqualified for various reasons, thus the reason for my letter.
2. [US Marine Corps develops mobile data capture tool to modernize recruitment](#)
(18 Feb) Naval Technology, By Talal Hussein
The new mobile data capture tool provides marine recruiters with a comprehensive dashboard to help them across the whole recruitment process.
3. [Targeted messaging: Military recruiters getting creative to reach Gen Z](#)
(24 Feb) Military.com, By Oriana Pawlyk
Marine Corps Gen. Charles Krulak had just played for a room full of other top officers his service's next recruitment commercial -- a now iconic mini-drama depicting a young man who slays a fearsome dragon and becomes a Marine.

EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

4. [Army to test a new, lighter body armor vest and full system this year](#)
(20 Feb) Army Times, By Todd South
Later this year the Army will test a lighter-weight body armor vest as part of its head-to-toe soldier protection system program and conduct a full test of the entire system by this fall as they prep the new gear for deploying units.
5. [Trump's next defense secretary could be a woman](#)
(22 Feb) Military.com, By Oriana Pawlyk
Acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan has had a rocky start auditioning for a permanent role in recent weeks, leading to speculation there may be other contenders for defense secretary waiting in the wings. Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson's name has been floated for SecDef since Jim Mattis stepped down from the position, according to various reports.
6. [These soldiers will be the first to take the Army's new fitness test for the record](#)
(22 Feb) Army Times, By Meghann Myers
The Army Combat Fitness Test will likely become standard in some parts of the Army a few months earlier than the deadline to bring it to full operating capability, which can be in October 2019, but no later than 2020, according to policy released last summer.
7. [Judge rules men-only military draft unconstitutional in court win for San Diego men's group](#)
(23 Feb) San Diego Union-Tribune, By Pauline Repard
A federal judge has ruled that a men-only draft is unconstitutional, but he stopped short of ordering the Selective Service System to register women for military service.

8. [**Judge rules all-male military draft unconstitutional**](#)
(24 Feb) The Hill, By Michael Burke
A federal judge in Texas ruled Friday that the all-male military draft is unconstitutional. U.S. District Judge Gray Miller of the Southern District of Texas wrote in an opinion that the "time has passed" to discuss the place of women in the military.
9. [**Drafting Only Men for the Military Is Unconstitutional, Judge Rules**](#)
(24 Feb) The New York Times, By Tyler Pager
Judge Gray H. Miller of Federal District Court in the Southern District of Texas took note of the Supreme Court's 1981 ruling that the exclusion of women from the draft was "fully justified" because women then were not allowed to serve in combat. But the Pentagon abolished those restrictions in 2015, opening the way for women to serve in any military role for which they could qualify.
10. [**Judge rules against male-only military draft, but no changes imminent**](#)
(26 Feb) The Associated Press, By Paul J. Weber
The chairman of a panel considering changes to the U.S. military draft said Monday its recommendations to Congress won't be influenced by a federal judge's recent ruling that the current system is unconstitutional because it only applies to men.
11. [**New fitness test presents challenges for Army National Guard**](#)
(26 Feb) The Associated Press, By Lolita C. Baldor
The Army National Guard is looking for nearly 5,000 fitness instructors and buying roughly \$40 million in workout equipment in the next seven months to help its soldiers meet new physical fitness standards being set by the military service.
12. [**First female TACP could graduate this spring**](#)
(27 Feb) Air Force Times, By Stephen Losey
The Air Force could see its first female airman graduate from tactical air control party training this spring, the service's personnel chief told Congress Wednesday.
13. [**Woman gets a college football scholarship to play defense on men's team**](#)
(28 Feb) CNN, By Steve Almasy
Toni Harris is an undersized defensive back with huge dreams. The free safety wants to be the first woman to play in the NFL. While that may be a long-shot wish, she is the first woman who has signed a letter of intent to attend college on a full football scholarship.

WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

14. [**Japan's Working Mothers: Record Responsibilities, Little Help From Dads**](#)
(2 Feb) The New York Times, By Motoko Rich
Men in Japan do fewer hours of housework and child care than in any of the world's richest nations. That keeps women from getting better jobs and holds back the economy.
15. [**Which military branch best prepares its troops to separate? The answer may surprise you.**](#)
(20 Feb) Military Times, By Natalie Gross
If you're in the Army, chances are you'll feel better prepared when it's time to get out than if you were in any other branch, according to the results of a recent Military Times poll.
16. [**Spouses have more problems, less support during deployments, survey finds**](#)
(21 Feb) Military Time, By Karen Jowers
The incidence of problems that spouses experienced during that most recent deployment were significantly higher in 2017 than in 2015, and 23 percent indicated difficult readjustments to their service member's return from deployment.
17. [**Fort Bragg soldiers indicted in marriage and immigration fraud sting**](#)
(22 Feb) Army Times, By Meghann Myers
Two Fort Bragg soldiers and two African immigrants face federal charges for attempting to pair up female soldiers with foreign citizens, exchanging legal residency for Army marriage benefits and cash.

18. [**Alexis Ohanian, Reddit co-founder, pushes for nationwide family leave law**](#)
(22 Feb) CBS News, By Irina Ivanova
When new parents in America decide how much time to take off work to spend with their newborn, the factor that usually matters most is their job. And for two-thirds of Americans, the amount of paid family leave their job offers is none at all.
19. [**He was fired for degrading female Marines. Now he wants Marines to learn from his mistakes**](#)
(23 Feb) Military.com, By Gina Harkins
Lt. Col. Taylor White and his colleague were not seeing eye-to-eye. The two had butted heads in the past and, when she started complaining that his squadron wasn't offering enough support during a 2017 conference call, White lashed out. With the phone muted on his end, he called the woman a "dumb c---" and a "stupid b----." It wasn't the first time some of the Marines in the room had heard him do this. After the call, one of them filed a formal complaint, kicking off a command-led investigation.
20. [**It's Not That Men Don't Know What Consent Is**](#)
(23 Feb) The New York Times, By Peggy Orenstein
They often understand that what they're doing is wrong — then they do it anyway.
21. [**West Point sets aside day to confront sexual harassment**](#)
(26 Feb) The Associated Press
West Point suspended classes Monday so cadets could help address the persistent problem of sexual assault and harassment at the academy. U.S. Military Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Darryl A. Williams ordered a full-day "stand-down" at the academy weeks after a Pentagon survey reported an increase in sexual assaults and harassment.
22. [**Death of 7-month-old military child fuels questions about unlicensed daycare on base**](#)
(27 Feb) Military Times, By Karen Jowers
The Honolulu Police Department is investigating the Feb. 24 death of a 7-month-old military child found dead in the home of a daycare provider at a military installation in Hawaii, officials said.
23. [**Police say a Fort Hood soldier filmed himself committing a rape**](#)
(27 Feb) Army Times, By Meghann Myers
A 19-year-old Fort Hood, Texas, soldier was in the Bell County jail as of Sunday night, facing charges that he committed a rape and videotaped the victim during the assault, according to a Tuesday release from the Harker Heights, Texas, police department.
24. [**Baby's death raises question: What happens when unauthorized daycare is reported on base?**](#)
(28 Feb) Military Times, By Karen Jowers
As police continue their investigation into the death of a 7-month-old military child in a daycare home on a military installation in Hawaii, questions remain unanswered about the installation's procedures for dealing with unlicensed daycare for children.
25. [**Ex-husband admits he had soldier killed, helped hide her body**](#)
(28 Feb) The Associated Press
A Fort Campbell soldier has admitted to having his ex-wife killed and to helping hide her body. Sgt. Jamal Williams-McCray pleaded guilty to charges including premeditated murder in the death of Pfc. Shadow McClaine.

SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

26. [**General Officer Assignments**](#)
(19 Feb) IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-036-19)
The chief of staff, Army announces the following officer assignments:
 - Brig. Gen. Michelle A. Schmidt, director of Intelligence, J-2, U.S. Special Operations Command, MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, to deputy commanding general, 10th Mountain Division (Light), Fort Drum, New York.
 - Col. (Promotable) Christine A. Beeler, deputy commander, U.S. Army Contracting Command, Redstone Arsenal, Alabama, to commander, Mission and Installation Contracting Command, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas.
27. [**Navy chief petty officer killed in Syria to be added to NSA memorial**](#)
(27 Feb) The Associated Press
The first female Navy service member killed in the battle against the Islamic State will become the third woman to have her name added to the National Security Agency's National Cryptologic Memorial.

28. [Miami Coast Guard pilot makes aviation history](#)
(27 Feb) CBS Miami
Lt. Ronaqua Russell, a native of St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, became the first African-American female aviator in the Coast Guard to receive the Air Medal.
29. ['Women Warriors': Photo exhibit shows the many roles of female servicemembers](#)
(28 Feb) Stars and Stripes, By Nancy Montgomery
The 15th woman to graduate from Army Ranger School is one of a score of local military women featured in a photography exhibit highlighting how things have changed for female servicemembers, and how they've stayed the same.

WOMEN VETERANS

30. [Military training helped these veterans launch small businesses](#)
(20 Feb) Military Times Reboot Camp, By Joshua Axelrod
Army veteran and Beyond Lettuce owner Kelly Smith, credits her time in the military for teaching her logistical skills like organization, scheduling and time management.
31. [Takano announces congressional task force to address challenges facing women veterans](#)
(25 Feb) Stars & Stripes, By Nikki Wentling
Rep. Mark Takano, the new chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, announced Monday that a new congressional task force will address barriers that women veterans face when trying to obtain Department of Veterans Affairs benefits and health care.
32. [IBM just appointed the first African-American woman to command a US Navy ship to its board](#)
(26 Feb) CNBC, By Lauren Feiner
IBM appointed Admiral Michelle J. Howard, the first African American woman to command a U.S. Navy ship, to its board, the company announced Tuesday. A former U.S. Navy officer, Howard was the first woman to become a 4-star admiral in addition to becoming the first African-American woman to command a U.S. Navy ship, according to IBM's announcement.
33. [Is VA shortchanging women's health programs?](#)
(28 Feb) Military Times, By Leo Shane III
Veterans Affairs officials say they are facing a "tsunami wave" of women veterans entering their systems, but lawmakers worry that the department's annual budget requests aren't keeping up with that demand.