



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

Articles of Interest

December 2024



Recruitment & Retention

1. [**Air Force moves to streamline officer recruiting with new accessions center**](#)
(2 Dec) Air & Space Forces Magazine, By David Roza
The Air Force permanently stood up the new Air Force Accessions Center on Dec. 2, a move officials hope will improve coordination and consistency between the service's various organs for bringing in new airmen and guardians, particularly officers.
2. [**Why not enlist an army of volunteer retirees?**](#)
(2 Dec) Washington Post, By Staff
National service shouldn't be just for the young.
3. [**CNO Discusses Navy's 2024 Recruiting Success**](#)
(4 Dec) DoD News, By Joseph Clark
Navy leaders are focused on positioning the nation's sea service as a world class employer in building upon this year's recruiting and retention success, Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Lisa M. Franchetti said yesterday. After falling short of its recruiting goal last year, the Navy exceeded its target in fiscal year 2024 with 40,978 new sailors joining the ranks, while at the same time posting strong retention figures across the enlisted force.
4. [**Why would you enlist? Fort Carson soldiers share journeys.**](#)
(3 Dec) Colorado Springs Gazette, By Mary Shinn
While covering the grueling field training at Fort Johnson, La., for Fort Carson's 1st Stryker Brigade this fall, The Gazette spoke with several soldiers who enlisted when they were 24 or older and why the challenge appealed to them.
5. [**GOP senators urge rejection of military draft for women**](#)
(5 Dec) Stars & Stripes, By Svetlana Shkolnikova
A group of Republican senators is fighting against a legislative proposal long pushed by Democrats to force young women to register for the military draft.
6. [**Ukraine takes 'first step' to mobilizing women amid troop shortages**](#)
(5 Dec) Newsweek, By Maya Mehrara
Ukraine's parliament, the Verkhovna Rada, has taken "the first steps" to mobilize women in the war with Russia amid troop shortages, says Ukrainian MP Dmytro Razumkov.
7. [**Female teens don't see themselves in the US military. Here's why, according to Pentagon surveys.**](#)
(10 Dec) Military.com, By Patricia Kime
New polling data from the Pentagon finds that 60% of young female adults in the U.S. have never considered joining the military or pictured themselves in uniform, largely for reasons that could be addressed by targeted recruiting and educational outreach, a Defense Department official said Tuesday.
8. [**Do air shows really help military readiness and recruiting? Congress plans to find out.**](#)
(12 Dec) Military.com, By Thomas Novelty
Lawmakers want the secretary of defense to brief Congress on how sending military aircraft to air shows affects recruiting and readiness, as well as study the effect of bringing those planes to smaller rural communities.



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9. [**DoD, AmeriCorps Sign Memo of Agreement Pledging Support**](#)
(13 Dec) DoD News, By Jim Garamone
The memo allows DoD to provide technical assistance, guidance and training to AmeriCorps. The two organizations had a similar agreement before, but it lapsed in 2013. It means that Americans will receive information that there are multiple ways to serve the nation. Air Force Col. Rebecca "BB" Lange is a living example of this synergy. In 1995, she was selected for AmeriCorps.
 10. [**More than half of senior Army officers are turning down command consideration**](#)
(13 Dec) Military.com, By Steve Beynon
More than half of the Army's senior officers are turning down opportunities to command, choosing instead the stability of staff roles over the high-stakes demands of leadership, or retiring, according to internal service data.
 11. [**Naval Academy ruling shows military strength depends on diversity**](#)
(13 Dec) Military Times, By Leah Watson
Black women veterans are leading efforts to protect opportunities for the next generation of military leaders.
 12. [**What the Army and Navy service academies look for in future officers**](#)
(15 Dec) Task & Purpose, By Patty Nieberg
The top military officers for the Army and Navy's service academies lay out what they look for in prospective students, and what they hope graduates will bring to the military.
 13. [**DOD's 2023 Demographics Report Indicates More Women, Fewer Separations**](#)
(16 Dec) DoD News, By C. Todd Lopez
Key takeaways from the latest report include that among the active duty force, the percentage of women serving in uniform has increased slightly from 17.5% in 2022 to 17.7% in 2023.
 14. [**Most girls do not think they could succeed in the military: DOD data**](#)
(16 Dec) Military Times, By Hope Hedge Seck
Youth interest in military service is in a long plummet, and teenage girls are dramatically less confident than boys that they have what it takes to be successful in uniform. That's according to a new data compilation from Joint Advertising Market Research & Studies, or JAMRS, the Defense Department's internal polling agency.
 15. [**Air Force expands waivers for asthma, allergies, hearing loss to bring in more recruits**](#)
(17 Dec) Air & Space Forces Magazine, By David Roza
In a bid to bring in more recruits, the Air Force recently expanded its waiver tolerances for asthma, food allergies, and hearing loss. The move should bring in between 600 and 1,000 more recruits per year, though they would have to stay out of career fields with stricter medical standards such as aviation and special warfare.
 16. [**Air Force expands waivers for recruits with asthma, food allergies**](#)
(18 Dec) Military Times, By Riley Ceder
The Air Force Recruiting Service's Accessions Medical Waiver Division decided to expand tolerances after the Air Force whiffed on recruiting goals last year for the first time since 1999, division head Col. Ian Gregory told the magazine.



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17. [Marine vet recruiter indicted on federal sex, porn charges](#)
(18 Dec) Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal, By William Moore
A recruiter for the U.S. Marine Corps held without bond since September on a state sexual battery charge has been indicted by a federal grand jury on sex and child pornography charges. The state charge against Brady Patrick Dean, 24, of Tupelo, includes one underage female victim. The new federal charges list at least two minor victims.
 18. [Marines can now reenlist early, some for up to 15 years](#)
(19 Dec) Military Times, By Todd South
The Marines have released an update to a years-long talent management effort aimed at building and retaining the best personnel by offering them a host of work, stationing and service options.
 19. [Recruit to gunny: 1st Marine graduates from talent acquisition program](#)
(20 Dec) Military Times, By Hope Hodge Seck
When Justin Kelley left the Air Force in 2015, he was an E-5 – a staff sergeant in the service’s rank structure. But when he graduated Marine Corps boot camp at Parris Island, South Carolina, on Friday, he became a gunnery sergeant — a two-rank promotion that will propel him directly into the Corps’ seasoned noncommissioned officer ranks.
 20. [How the Marine Corps is changing to keep talented Marines in the service](#)
(20 Dec) Military.com, By Drew F. Lawrence
The Marine Corps — unsurprisingly — wants to keep quality Marines in the fleet. What is significant, however, is how the service is attempting to do it. And by the accounts of several Marine officials Military.com spoke to on Thursday, the budding effort is working.

Employment & Integration

21. [Sailors who ace fitness test are now exempt from Navy body fat limits](#)
(2 Dec) Task & Purpose, By Patty Nieberg
The Navy will allow sailors who score high on their annual fitness test but might be carrying a few extra pounds to forgo extra physical training requirements as the services change their understanding of what being “fit” actually looks like.
22. [Austin endorses women in combat jobs and exhorts West Point cadets to defend the Constitution](#)
(4 Dec) The Associated Press, By Lolita C. Baldor
Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin used a speech at West Point Wednesday to forcefully endorse having women in combat roles and emphasize the military’s obligation to defend the U.S. Constitution — ideals some fear may come under fire in the upcoming Trump administration.
23. [Physically fit sailors may be exempt from body standards next year, Navy says](#)
(5 Dec) Stars & Stripes, By Juan King
The Navy in 2025 aims to cut some sailors a break if they cannot meet body assessment standards but can pass the service’s official physical exam.



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24. [Sen. Joni Ernst wants to hear from Hegseth on sex assault in the military and women in combat](#)
(7 Dec) The Associated Press, By Tara Copp
Republican Sen. Joni Ernst made her most expansive comments yet on Pete Hegseth, telling a largely GOP audience at a California security conference Saturday that she needs to hear more from President-elect Donald Trump's embattled defense secretary pick on key issues before she decides whether to support him.
25. [Navy expects to have first female submarine commander by 2028](#)
(11 Dec) Military Times, By Hope Hedge Seck
Fourteen years after the Navy began integrating women into submarine crews, the population of enlisted women and officers in subs continues to grow steadily year-over-year — and the service projects it will name the first female submarine commanding officer by 2028.
26. [Congress is putting more money into these submarines in new spending bill](#)
(16 Dec) The Middletown Press, By Alexander Soule
With Russia's recent use of a hypersonic missile alarming U.S. military planners, Congress is putting more money into submarine power and by extension keeping General Dynamics Electric Boat shipyard busy as it faces tight delivery windows for two major sub programs.
27. [Congress demands answers on low testosterone issues among special operators](#)
(18 Dec) Task & Purpose, By Patty Nieberg
A range of health issues in the special operations community caused by low testosterone, dubbed "Operator Syndrome," has drawn congressional attention.
28. [DOD to track suicide deaths by job specialty under new law](#)
(23 Dec) Air & Space Forces Magazine, By David Rosa
The report identified groups of military jobs with the highest rates of suicide, but it did not break the data down by individual career fields. Fields as disparate as special forces, conventional infantry, and military training instructors were lumped together into one category, as were aircraft maintainers from a wide range of types of aircraft and maintenance specialties.
29. [Army faces balancing act in quest to raise fitness test rigor for combat jobs, study finds](#)
(23 Dec) Stars & Stripes, By JOHN VANDIVER
The Army can raise the bar on minimum fitness standards for close-combat jobs and also must establish clear consequences for soldiers who fall short, according to the recommendations from a new study on the implications of demanding more from front-line troops.
30. [How the Air Force can move from storming to norming hair standards](#)
(26 Dec) Military Times, By Lt. Col. Kelly Atkinson and Lt. Col. Alea Nadeem
Three years ago, we wrote about the changes to hair standards for women service members and the invisible labor behind this policy change. Earlier this year, the Air Force updated Department of the Air Force (DAF) Instruction 36-2903 to include visual aids to help airmen understand and implement the updated standards, both for women's hairstyles and for other dress and appearance areas.
31. [Space Force guardians overwhelmingly accepting of new fitness tracking in study](#)
(27 Dec) Colorado Springs Gazette, By Mary Shinn
Thousands of Space Force guardians have traded out fitness tests for continuous tracking of their workouts.



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32. [The Taliban say they will close all NGOs employing Afghan women](#)
(30 Dec) *The Associated Press, By Staff*
The Taliban say they will close all national and foreign nongovernmental groups in Afghanistan employing women, the latest crackdown on women's rights since they took power in August 2021
 33. [The Army's fitness standards may shift in 2025. But how much tougher will they be?](#)
(31 Dec) *Military.com, By Steve Beynon*
The Army is poised to recalibrate its fitness standards, redefining the physical expectations for combat-arms roles in 2025. Yet, where those minimum requirements will ultimately land remains an open question -- one that could present an early test for President-elect Donald Trump's incoming Army leadership.

Well-Being & Treatment

34. [Duckworth calls for Trump's help in expanding IVF access for troops](#)
(4 Dec) *Stars & Stripes, By Svetlana Shkolnikova*
Sen. Tammy Duckworth, D-Ill., is asking President-elect Donald Trump to use his influence among Republicans to back legislation that would expand insurance coverage of vitro fertilization for military personnel.
35. [Hegseth could chill reporting of military sexual assault, survivor advocates warn](#)
(5 Dec) *Washington Post, By Staff*
Advocates for survivors of sexual assault in the military have warned that placing a man accused of assault in charge of the Pentagon could have a chilling effect on reporting of sexual misconduct.
36. [Five Marine Corps families file lawsuits over child abuse at military base day care](#)
(5 Dec) *Stars & Stripes, By Rose L. Thayer*
Negligence in hiring, training and supervising day care workers at a Marine Corps base in Arizona laid the groundwork for children to be abused physically by employees at the military facility, according to federal lawsuits filed by five families.
37. [Former Air Force commander at Wright-Patterson charged with adultery, faces court-martial](#)
(5 Dec) *Military.com, By Thomas Novelty*
A former commander at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio, will face a court-martial for adultery and fraternization, the base announced nearly one year after his removal from leadership.
38. [Proposed expansion of IVF coverage for troops scuttled from compromise defense bill](#)
(10 Dec) *Military.com, By Rebecca Kheel*
An expansion of coverage for fertility treatments for service members was left out of a compromise defense bill despite previous support in both chambers of Congress.
39. [Former Army commander claims trial based on race, faces sex harassment charges for lewd jokes, unwanted touches, undressing](#)
(11 Dec) *Stars & Stripes, By Gary Warner*
Lewd jokes, unwanted touches and partial undressing were a methodical campaign of sexual harassment by a former battalion commander at this base shared by the Army and Air Force, prosecutors said Tuesday during the first day of former Lt. Col. Bernard West III's court-martial. Accusations included West demanding a subordinate to do her physical training only with him, barged into the women's room when female officers were covered only with towels, and twice partially disrobed in front of the women while on duty.



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40. [**Military academies report drop in sex assaults for 2nd straight year**](#)
(12 Dec) Military Times, By Lolita C. Baldor
Reported sexual assaults at the U.S. military service academies dropped in 2024 for the second year in a row, according to new Pentagon data, marking a sharp turnaround from an alarming surge two years ago that triggered sweeping reviews and an overhaul in leadership.
 41. [**No more copays: Defense bill set to sign off on free birth control for military families**](#)
(12 Dec) Military.com, By Rebecca Kheel
Free birth control will be available to all Tricare users after more than a decade of efforts to eliminate copays for contraception for military families were finally successful in this year's annual defense policy bill.
 42. [**DOD Media Round Table Academic Program Year \(APY\) 23-24 Service Academy Gender Relations Survey \(SAGR\) Report**](#)
(12 Dec) DoD News Transcript
Thank you all so much for joining us today. We are here to brief you on the top-line data from the academic program year 2023-2024 Annual Report on Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence at the Military Service Academies. As you may have seen, we are looking at some encouraging data this year.
 43. [**Service Academies Report First Decline in Sexual Assault Rates in a Decade**](#)
(12 Dec) DoD News, By Army Maj. Wes Shinego
The prevalence of sexual assault at the military service academies saw its first decline in 10 years, according to the preliminary findings from the Service Academy Gender Relations Survey for academic program year 2023-24, released today. The data suggests the Defense Department's efforts to address these issues may be gaining traction.
 44. [**What sexual assault survivors in the military say about the next 4 years**](#)
(13 Dec) The War Horse, By Sonner Kehrt
A Navy submariner who said she was sexually assaulted multiple times. An Army major who chose to never report her assault. A Marine Corps sexual assault response coordinator who worries she is being discriminated against because she's a woman. A former Defense Department sexual assault victim advocate of the year. Over the past several weeks, The War Horse spoke with a dozen current service members across the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines about their experiences with sexual assault in uniform — as survivors, advocates, and allies.
 45. [**Secretary of Defense Statement on Progress Toward Addressing Sexual Misconduct at the Military Service Academies**](#)
(13 Dec) DoD Immediate Release
I can announce a significant reduction in the estimated prevalence rate of sexual assault and sexual harassment at our Military Service Academies. The initial results of the Academic Program Year (APY) 2023-24 Service Academy Gender Relations Survey show a significant decrease in these harmful behaviors for both women and men, compared to estimates from APY 2021-22. This reverses an alarming upward trend in the estimated prevalence of sexual assault and sexual harassment at the academies that the survey observed in recent years.
 46. [**Army lieutenant colonel at JBLM receives reprimand, nearly \\$100,000 fine for harassing 3 female officers**](#)
(14 Dec) Stars & Stripes, By Gary Warner
An Army lieutenant colonel was sentenced Friday to receive an official reprimand and fined almost \$100,000 after he was found guilty by a military judge of harassing three female officers under his command.



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47. [Army officer fined nearly \\$100,000 for harassing female officers](#)
(16 Dec) Military Times, By Todd South
Prosecutors alleged that Lt. Col. Benjamin West, 43, conducted a “step-by-step” escalation of sexual harassment of one female aide and two other female officers in I Corps at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, the news outlet Stars and Stripes reported.
 48. [House probe finds former Coast Guard commandant decided to withhold sexual assault findings](#)
(16 Dec) Military.com, By Patricia Kime
A House investigation into the Coast Guard's handling of sexual assault cases at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy found that the service mishandled most cases from the start and leaders intentionally withheld the subsequent investigation into the crimes from Congress and the public.
 49. [West Point colonel arraigned again for alleged misconduct with cadets](#)
(19 Dec) Military.com, By Riley Ceder
In June, Col. William Wright faced nine allegations of making inappropriate sexual remarks, providing and drinking alcohol with a cadet, endeavoring to influence testimonies and wrongfully contacting a cadet on the academy’s women’s tennis team.
 50. [Congressional investigations find former Coast Guard commandant chose to bury report on sexual misconduct at service’s academy](#)
(20 Dec) Stars & Stripes, By Rose L. Thayer
Two separate congressional investigations found retired Adm. Karl Schultz made the decision during his tenure as Coast Guard commandant to conceal an embarrassing internal review of the mishandling of sexual misconduct among cadets at the service’s academy.
 51. [Coast Guard leaders kept sexual assault investigation secret: Report](#)
(23 Dec) The Associated Press, By Dave Collins
Former top Coast Guard officials hid a yearslong investigation into sexual assault and harassment at the service’s academy from both Congress and the public after leaders debated the fallout from a potential disclosure, according to a U.S. Senate committee report released Friday.
 52. [New special trial counsels take over prosecution of major sexual harassment cases from commanding officers](#)
(31 Dec) Stars & Stripes, By Gary Warner
Military commanders will lose their authority to overturn court-martial findings in the most serious sexual harassment cases as of Jan. 1, the Pentagon said Tuesday.

Servicewomen in the News

53. [US military takes pride in religious diversity. Would things change if Pete Hegseth takes charge?](#)
(4 Dec) The Associated Press, By Peter Smith
It was a history-making event: In a chapel at Fort Liberty, North Carolina, 2nd Lt. Khady Ndiaye stood proudly -- wearing a hijab – as she became the first Muslim woman commissioned by the U.S. Army as a chaplain candidate.



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54. [Sidney Jaques, Her Story: First Female Tabbed Ranger in 75th Ranger Regiment](#)
(5 Dec) Mentors4Mil Video
In this captivating episode of Mentors4mil, we dive deep into the journey of Sidney Jacquez, the first Ranger tabbed female in the 75th Ranger Regiment. Sidney shares her story, starting from her selection in RASP-2, leading to her experiences in Ranger School, where she faced unexpected challenges. As the first woman from the regiment to pass the Ranger School's rigorous standards, Sidney opens up about the unique pressures and biases she encountered.
 55. [Air Force names first female SERE specialist as chief master sergeant](#)
(12 Dec) Military Times, By Riley Ceder
An airman recently became the first female survival, evasion, resistance, escape, or SERE, specialist to achieve the rank of chief master sergeant, the service announced. Chief Master Sgt. Tiffany Zaloudek earned the highest enlisted rank in the Air Force on Nov. 1, according to an Air Force release.
 56. [She joined the Army at 45. Now she's vying to be an Army Golden Knight](#)
(12 Dec) Task & Purpose, By Patty Nieberg
Maribeth Kossman, a former first grade teacher and Navy electronics technician, was 45 when she joined the Army to jump from airplanes with the service's Golden Knights Parachute Team.
 57. [A Coast Guard commander miscarried. She nearly died after being denied care.](#)
(13 Dec) ProPublica, By Erin Edwards and Robin Fields
The night the EMTs carried Elizabeth Nakagawa from her home, bleeding and in pain, the tarp they'd wrapped her in reminded her of a body bag. Nakagawa, 39, is a Coast Guard commander: stoic, methodical, an engineer by trade. But as they maneuvered her past her young daughters' bedroom, down the narrow steps and into the ambulance, she felt a stab of fear. She might never see her girls again.
 58. [Future missile frigate will be named after historic female Navy officer](#)
(17 Dec) Stars & Stripes, By Staff
A future constellation-class guided missile frigate (FFG 69) will be named USS Joy Bright Hancock, a tribute to one of the first female officers to serve in the U.S. Navy, according to a Navy news release.
 59. [How Miss America 2024 took the Air Force somewhere new](#)
(20 Dec) Air & Space Forces Magazine, By David Roza
Most second lieutenants don't work with the highest levels of the Air Force and meet thousands of people in a yearlong coast-to-coast speaking tour. But then again, most second lieutenants are not Miss America.
 60. [Camouflage and tiaras: First active-duty Miss America reflects on year](#)
(26 Dec) Military Times, By Hope Hedge Seck
The extent to which 2nd Lt. Madison Marsh had found herself in uncharted military territory became clear at a NASCAR event in February, where her dual-hat duties required her to execute quick changes between her Air Force combat utility uniform and full pageant regalia.
 61. [Childhood cancer proves no match for Texan who beat the odds to become a Marine](#)
(26 Dec) Stars & Stripes, By Lydia Gordon
For newly minted Marine Pfc. Britney Moyeda, getting through boot camp was no sweat in comparison with what she had endured just to get there in the first place.



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Women Veterans

62. [Kerry Washington and Tyler Perry unlock an untold true story in 'The Six Triple Eight'](#)
(2 Dec) *Collider*, By Maddie P.
The war drama film recounts the real-life events of the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion of the U.S. Army, aka Six Triple Eight, the first and only battalion comprising women of color who served during WWII.
63. [VA secretary underlines importance of access to women vets reproductive care](#)
(8 Dec) *Military Times Video*
As a new administration prepares to take over, VA Secretary Denis McDonough reflects on the importance of access to reproductive care for female vets.
64. ['The Six Triple Eight' is a powerful tribute to the Army's first all-Black, all-woman battalion](#)
(9 Dec) *Military.com*, By Sarah Sicard
In the vast and ever-expanding universe of military filmmaking, World War II movies are a dime a dozen. It's everyone's favorite war, and directors have been making movies about it since before Victory in Europe Day even took place in May 1945. And among scores of WWII movies, there's usually a common thread: In order to be accurate, war must be depicted as an ugly affair that forces people to do ugly things. As Union Army Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman once wrote: "War is cruelty, and you cannot refine it."
65. [Pressure on a veteran and senator shows what's next for those who oppose Trump](#)
(12 Dec) *The Associated Press*, By Jill Colvin, Lisa Mascaro, and Hannah Fingerhut
She's an Iraq War combat veteran and sexual assault survivor who has advocated for years to improve how the military handles claims of sexual misconduct.
66. [VA sees rise in military sexual trauma claims, thanks to outreach work](#)
(12 Dec) *Military Times*, By Leo Shane III
Veterans Affairs leaders said outreach and reform efforts related to military sexual trauma cases have led to an increase in claims over the last year, a trend they hope continues into the future.
67. ['Molly Marine' has been a familiar New Orleans face since 1943, but whose face inspired hers?](#)
(13 Dec) *The Times-Picayune*, By Staff
Molly has been standing in her place of honor in New Orleans' Elks Place since 1943, so it's probably accurate to say that most passersby are too busy to take notice of her.
68. ['Disturbing and disgusting': House lawmakers investigate rampant sex, harassment, misconduct at Tennessee VA facility](#)
(16 Dec) *Stars & Stripes*, By Linda F. Hersey
The House Veterans' Affairs Committee has investigated multiple whistleblower accounts of rampant sexual assault, misconduct and consensual sexual activities that took place inside the VA Mountain Home health care facility in Tennessee.
69. [World War II Army nurse veteran celebrates her 105th birthday](#)
(24 Dec) *Stars & Stripes*, By Staff
On Dec. 20, World War II Army nurse veteran Regina Benson celebrated her 105th birthday, according to a Friends of the National World War II Memorial press release.



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Upcoming Events

- Title:** [Military's Women's Symposium](#)
- Location:** United States Navy Memorial, Washington, DC
- Date:** 6 March 2025
- Register:** [Click Here](#)
- Details:** This year's topics include Policy Challenges & Gaps, Servicewomen in Leadership, Health & Wellness, Human & Combat Performance, and Gear & Apparel. The Shield Maiden workout will occur on March 7th and in 2025 we've added breakout sessions at the end of each day.
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- Title:** [DACOWITS Quarterly Business Meeting](#)
- Location:** AUSA Conference Center, Arlington, VA
- Date:** 18-19 March 2025
- Time:** 0800-1200
- Register:** The in-person public portions of the meeting will be streamed live. Anyone who wishes to watch the meeting via ZoomGov must register in advance by sending an email to the DACOWITS Staff: osd.pentagon.ousd-p-r.mbx.dacowits@mail.mil A code will be provide 24-hours prior to the meeting.
- Details:** DACOWITS provides advice and recommendations on matters and policies relating to the recruitment, retention, employment, integration, well-being, and treatment of women in the Armed Forces of the United States. The Committee gathers information from multiple sources, to include briefings from Defense Department, Service-level military representatives, and subject matter experts.
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- Title:** [Officer Women Leadership Symposium \(OWLS\)](#)
- Location:** George Mason University Mason, Arlington, VA (+ virtual option)
- Date:** 2-3 April 2025
- Register:** [Click Here](#)
- Details:** The event theme, *Power of Connection*, emphasizes the profound impact that relationships have on our personal growth, resilience, and collective strength. This symposium explores how strong connections to – self, a community of warriors, and the world – provide insights and skills necessary to lead for impact.
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- Title:** [Joint Women's Leadership Symposium](#)
- Location:** Hyatt Regency Crystal City at Reagan National Airport, Arlington, VA
- Date:** 22-24 June 2025
- Register:** [Click Here](#)
- Details:** Every year, SSLA hosts the annual Joint Women's Leadership Symposium (JWLS), which is the largest gathering of women in uniform. We welcome men and women to join us, meet amazing trailblazers, find a mentor, and share best practices on how to best lead and inspire others!