



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

Articles of Interest

January 2022



RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

- [More people are joining the Air Force in their late 30s](#)**
(5 Jan) Air Force Times, By Rachel S. Cohen
In 2014, the service increased the age cutoff from 27 to 39 for those without prior military service to enlist on active duty.
- [Navy boot camp lengthened to 10 weeks to prepare recruits for life in the fleet](#)**
(8 Jan) Navy Times, By Diana Stancy Correll
The objective of the additional two weeks is to provide sailors with more resources and fleet-centric training that will contribute to their success in the Navy.
- [A few good women: Why the Marine Corps must do more to keep its best female Marines in uniform](#)**
(11 Jan) Task & Purpose, By Richard Protzmann
The Corps cannot afford to continue to lose highly-qualified Marines. One component that should not just be given lip service is the new emphasis on career flexibility, especially for female Marines who are coming off childbirth and nursing.
- [Air Force recruiting is in the toilet and senior leaders are sounding the alarm](#)**
(12 Jan) Task & Purpose, By David Roza
Between the COVID-19 pandemic, a low number of eligible recruits and a low unemployment rate, the Air Force recruiting service will have a tough time hitting its goals for fiscal year 2022, Maj. Gen. Edward Thomas Jr. said in a memo leaked to social media on Monday.
- [Army offers recruits up to \\$50K bonus as pandemic takes toll](#)**
(12 Jan) The Associated Press, By Lolita C. Baldor
Given the high standards, it will be difficult for many to qualify for the top bonus.
- [Marine Corps looks to improve retention in 2022](#)**
(12 Jan) Marine Corps Times, By Philip Athey
Though an older force will likely cost more in terms of salary, the commandant says the Corps may save money with a more mature force that gets in trouble less.
- [Judge orders man convicted of sexual assault to join the military or go to jail](#)**
(12 Jan) Task & Purpose, By Max Hauptman
A Kentucky judge this month gave a man charged convicted of sexual assault a perplexing choice: join the military or go to jail.
- [New in 2022: More tests for Marine Corps recruits](#)**
(15 Jan) Marine Corps Times, By Philip Athey
In 2022, potential future Marines will run through more tests to ensure they are the right fit for the Corps and to get better matched with a job that best matches their skills.
- [New Space Force recruits sworn in at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base](#)**
(15 Jan) KGUN, By Shawndrea Thomas
Only 521 members of the Space Force were selected this year.



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10. [**Military services enlisted fewer but better qualified recruits at outset of coronavirus pandemic in 2020, study finds**](#)
(18 Jan) *Stars & Stripes*, By Corey Dickstein
The Pentagon took in fewer recruits in 2020 than in prior years as the coronavirus pandemic swept across the globe, but those accepted into the military were generally of higher quality than in recent years, a new think tank report found.
11. [**The military is not an option for sex offenders. Go to jail.**](#)
(20 Jan) *Courier Journal*, By Benjamin Garnett
“Join the military or go to jail” was an oft-used clarion call in America of the mid-1980’s and earlier. It was a time when the military was interested in increasing its numbers without regard for the character of its service members. Judges often issued this ultimatum to men convicted of minor or moderately severe offenses.
12. [**Air Force’s enlisted recruitment pipeline is drying up, general warns**](#)
(21 Jan) *Air Force Times*, By Rachel S. Cohen
The Air Force is fighting an uphill battle to meet this year’s recruiting goals, the two-star general in charge of recruitment warned in an email earlier this month.
13. [**Future sailors could earn up to \\$50K in enlistment bonuses**](#)
(25 Jan) *Navy Times*, By Diana Stancy Correll
The maximum bonus is \$10,000 more than previously offered to incoming sailors.
14. [**Drastic cuts to recruiting, moves and new ship delays are inevitable without a budget, Navy says**](#)
(25 Jan) *Military.com*, By Konstantin Toropin and Rebecca Kheel
If the Navy is forced to live with a yearlong continuing resolution, the service would have to cut the number of recruits it adds by nearly 10,000, prevent 37,000 moves, and stop the construction of ships it says are crucial to national security, service leaders are warning lawmakers.
15. [**Klein High School becomes home to first US Space Force JROTC in Texas**](#)
(25 Jan) *KHOU*, By Jason Miles
The school's JROTC unit was announced as one of 10 units across the nation to be picked for the honor.
16. [**National Guard sees troops reupping despite COVID, hard year**](#)
(25 Jan) *The Associated Press*, By Lolita C. Baldor
State Guard units have faced exhausting demands in the past two years dealing with COVID-19, natural disasters and other military deployments.
17. [**Space Force? Is that real? Guardians still struggling with an unconvinced public**](#)
(28 Jan) *Military.com*, By Thomas Novelty
A Space Force captain traveling with their spouse stood stunned at the Spirit Airlines ticket counter this past October hoping to take advantage of the company's waived baggage fees for active-duty service members.
18. [**The Army used an airman and her working dog in a recruiting poster**](#)
(31 Jan) *Task & Purpose*, By Max Hauptman
A recent Army recruiting poster appeared to show an image that should intrigue anyone interested in enlisting.
19. [**Navy surpasses retention goals for FY21, shifts focus to sustainment**](#)
(31 Jan) *Navy Times*, By Diana Stancy Correll
The Navy is "shifting from a trajectory of growth to sustainment" while still working to fill its sea duty gaps.



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EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

20. [How the Army holistic health and fitness program can help soldiers' New Year's resolutions](#)
(3 Jan) Army Times, By Todd South
It's been slightly more than a year since the Army kicked off its new Holistic Health and Fitness program.
21. [Can the Army's New Fitness Test Survive Critics and Become Official in April?](#)
(5 Jan) Military.com, By Steve Beynon
Data obtained by Military.com in May 2020 showed nearly half of women in the Army wouldn't have passed the test. While women have made progress since soldiers began actively training for the new standards, passing the test isn't enough for most troops. High performance on the test gives soldiers an edge when it comes to promotions and opportunities
22. [New in 2022: Out with the old, in with the new Air Force PT tests](#)
(6 Jan) Air Force Times, By Rachel S. Cohen
The Air Force's menu of fitness test options debuted Jan. 1, 2022.
23. [Workforce development, process improvements will make or break the Virginia-class submarine program](#)
(6 Jan) Defense News, By Megan Eckstein
The U.S. Navy's Virginia-class attack submarine program is playing catch-up after falling at least a year behind schedule. But it's still facing a pair of challenges in the next several years.
24. [Air Force accused of pushing woman through elite commando training after she quit, spurring investigation](#)
(7 Jan) Air Force Times, By Rachel S. Cohen and Kyle Rempfer
The claims are incorrect or missing important context, said Lt. Gen. Jim Slife, the head of Air Force Special Operations Command. But he has called for the service's inspector general to investigate.
25. [Woman who quit Air Force commando course questioned 'highly suspicious' lower standards](#)
(13 Jan) Air Force Times, By Rachel S. Cohen and Kyle Rempfer
"The change in standards invalidated me with a majority of my team," the female special tactics officer candidate wrote in April 2021.
26. [Will female Marines be allowed to wear ponytails in 2022?](#)
(13 Jan) Marine Corps Times, By Philip Athey
The Corps is the only service branch that does not allow ponytails in daily uniforms.
27. [We have a new approach to the Army Combat Fitness Test grading scale](#)
(14 Jan) Army Times, By Robert Craig, Maria Smith and Shane Smith
As the Army continues to navigate challenges to fully implement its new physical fitness test, measuring soldiers' individual levels of fitness is no longer at the forefront.
28. [Air Force's botched integration of women in special ops ignites firestorm of controversy](#)
(14 Jan) Task & Purpose, By Davis Roza
The Air Force Special Operations Command's handling of news that a female special warfare candidate received preferential treatment in the training pipeline has sparked a fierce backlash and proven accurate the warnings of a 2016 report that called for transparency in the military's integration of women into special operations forces.



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29. [Marine Corps to allow some officers to opt out of promotion boards](#)
(19 Jan) Marine Corps Times, By Philip Athey
The Marine Corps will now allow some Marines to opt out of major, lieutenant colonel and colonel promotion boards in the hopes of allowing Marines to pursue more diverse career paths.
30. [Groups Work to Eliminate, Diminish Barriers to Women's Military Service](#)
(23 Jan) DoD News, By Jim Garamone
Women are an integral part of the American military, and DOD officials are working to ensure their concerns are addressed.

WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

31. [Army judge makes extraordinary ruling, raising prosecutors' threshold in sexual assault court-martial](#)
(4 Jan) Stars & Stripes, By John Vandiver
A U.S. Army officer facing sexual assault charges will require a unanimous guilty verdict to be convicted in an upcoming court-martial, a judge ruled this week ahead of a potentially groundbreaking case.
32. [Army officer's sex assault trial paused over unanimous verdict order by judge](#)
(5 Jan) Military.com, By Rebecca Kheel
A military judge has required a jury in Germany to reach a unanimous decision to convict an Army officer facing sexual assault charges, marking the first time that high bar has been required for a guilty verdict in a court-martial.
33. [Reproductive Equity Means More Men Should Consider Having A Vasectomy](#)
(5 Jan) Madame Noire, By Julia Austin
According to the CDC, the most common form of contraception in recent years for women was female sterilization otherwise known as tubal ligation. As an invasive, expensive and often painful procedure, it's rather surprising so many women would opt for tubal ligation. A lot of men squirm at the idea of a vasectomy. Here are reasons men should consider more vasectomies.
34. [Marine under investigation after 2-star Army general calls attention to sexual harassment allegations](#)
(5 Jan) Task & Purpose, By Jeff Schogol
A US Army general personally intervened on Saturday after a Marine was recently accused of sexually harassing several women online.
35. [The military's gender relations survey is now open to all troops](#)
(6 Jan) Military Times, By Meghann Myers
The services will soon have a more complete picture of the state of sexual assault and sexual harassment in the military, with a new version of its annual Workplace and Gender Relations Survey that is open to all service members who want to fill it out.
36. [Air Force delays court-martial of two-star general charged with sex assault](#)
(7 Jan) Air Force Time, By Rachel S. Cohen
An Air Force judge has postponed the court-martial of Maj. Gen. Bill Cooley, the former Air Force Research Laboratory commander accused of sexual assault, until mid-April amid an explosion in coronavirus cases, the service said Thursday.
37. [Women say Marine's inappropriate photo revealed a web of lies](#)
(10 Jan) Stars & Stripes, By Chad Garland
A Marine is under investigation for sending an unwanted photo of his genitals as part of a pattern of misrepresenting himself to exploit vulnerable women, according to several people familiar with the events.



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38. [I'm an E4 whose sex assault case was mishandled by civilian police. Here's how we changed state laws for the better](#)
(10 Jan) *Army Times*, By Sheyla Scholl
I was at the peak of my split option enlistment when I was sexually assaulted by another soldier in the Minnesota National Guard on the night I graduated and returned from Advanced Individual Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.
39. [Ellsworth command chief was fired after investigation backed sexual harassment claim](#)
(12 Jan) *Air Force Times*, By Rachel S. Cohen
An inquiry substantiated claims against Chief Master Sgt. Justin Deisch including sexual harassment of an airman, dereliction of his duties as a senior noncommissioned officer and simple assault.
40. [Ruling requiring unanimous verdict at military sexual assault trial unlikely to survive appeal, analysts say](#)
(12 Jan) *Stars & Stripes*, By Nancy Montgomery
An Army judge's novel ruling to require a unanimous guilty verdict in an upcoming court-martial has drawn an array of characterizations by military law experts: totally wrong, partially right, rogue and brave among them.
41. [Master chief headed to trial over alleged 'maltreatment' of subordinates](#)
(14 Jan) *Navy Times*, By Geoff Ziezulewicz
A Navy master chief is headed to trial this spring on charges that he mistreated subordinates, assaulted a sailor and forced a subordinate to falsify a COVID-19 test result, among other alleged infractions.
42. [Two-piece flight suit, wrap dress on the horizon for pregnant airmen](#)
(18 Jan) *Air Force Times*, By Rachel S. Cohen
More uniform options are on the way for moms-to-be in the Air Force, from two-piece maternity flight suits to wrap dresses.
43. [The National Guard's sexual assault investigation office has limited power to get justice](#)
(19 Jan) *Military Times*, By Meghann Myers
A special office will review sexual assault charges, but there's no accountability for state leadership if they don't call them.
44. [General speaks to a formation of service members in a National Guard armory.](#)
(20 Jan) *DoD News*, By Jim Garamone
The National Guard is instituting changes to better combat sexual assault and harassment in the ranks, Army Gen. Daniel Hokanson told the House Armed Services military personnel subcommittee yesterday.
45. [Lawmakers urge SECDEF to drop TRICARE copays for birth control](#)
(20 Jan) *Military Times*, By Leo Shane III
The extra costs are waived by most private insurers but not for members of the military.
46. [Army investigating Fort Hood soldier for mocking sexual harassment in TikTok video](#)
(21 Jan) *Task & Purpose*, By Haley Britzky
A Fort Hood specialist is being investigated after posting a TikTok video mocking "quid pro quo" sexual harassment.
47. [Military sexual harassment will be a crime under new White House executive order](#)
(25 Jan) *Military Times*, By Leo Shane III
President Joe Biden is expected to sign the order Wednesday afternoon.
48. [Sexual harassment in the military now a crime under Biden order](#)
(26 Jan) *Military Times*, By Leo Shane III
The commander in chief signed an executive order Wednesday making the changes to the Uniform Code of Military Justice.



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49. [Sexual harassment is now officially a crime in the US military](#)
(26 Jan) *Task & Purpose, By Jeff Schogol*
'Sexual harassment, has for too long, been seen as something you had to deal with as part of the job if you wanted to serve.'
50. [Google Just Increased Parental Leave To 24 Weeks—Here's How That Compares to Other Tech Giants](#)
(27 Jan) *Forbes, By Lisa Kim*
Google is increasing paid time off for workers who give birth to a maximum of 24 weeks from the previous 18, according to reports Thursday, as the tech industry continues to lead the country in terms of worker benefits—here's how long parental leaves are at other major tech firms in the country.
51. [Vanessa Guillén's murder led the U.S. to deem military sexual harassment a crime](#)
(27 Jan) *NPR, By Bill Chappell*
Sexual harassment is now a crime under U.S. military law — a milestone that might surprise many people simply because it hadn't occurred until now. The change is a direct legacy of Spc. Vanessa Guillén, who was murdered by a fellow soldier in 2020 while she was stationed at Fort Hood, Texas.
52. [Workers have few job protections during the trauma of a miscarriage](#)
(27 Jan) *NPR, By Bryce Covert*
Workers who suffer miscarriages may face repercussions if they try to take a lot of time off at work. There are no national laws that mandate sick leave for workers, let alone specific protections for people dealing with a miscarriage.
53. [Foreign threats, GWOT memorial, wartime injuries, and sexual assault](#)
(28 Jan) *Policy Vets <Podcast>*
Senator Joni Ernst has the floor as she speaks about the potential Ukraine conflict, as well as other threats. She discusses the importance of the Global War on Terror Memorial, as well as our need to keep wartime injuries and sexual assault at the forefront.

SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

54. [USS Abraham Lincoln Captain Becomes First Woman to Command a Deployed Aircraft Carrier](#)
(4 Jan) *War History Online, By Clare Fitzgerald*
Captain Amy Bauernschmidt has made history by becoming the first woman to command a deployed aircraft carrier, after the USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72) set out to sea on January 3, 2022.
55. [Cmdr. Billie Farrell will become first woman to command USS Constitution](#)
(5 Jan) *Daily Press, By David Ress*
It marks a big step back into history, from serving as executive officer on the Norfolk-based guided missile cruiser USS Vicksburg to command of the world's oldest commissioned naval vessel.
56. [Appeal by soldier convicted for her role in death of West Point cadet adds to legal groundswell against split guilty verdicts](#)
(7 Jan) *Stars & Stripes, By John Vandiver*
A U.S. soldier who is serving prison time for her role in the death of a West Point cadet is appealing her negligent homicide conviction on the grounds that a military panel's nonunanimous guilty verdict violated her constitutional rights.



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57. **General Officer Announcement**

(10 Jan) DoD News

Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III announced today that the president has made the following nomination: Marine Corps Col. Maura M. Hennigan for appointment to the rank of brigadier general. Hennigan is currently serving as director, U.S. House of Representatives Congressional Liaison, Office of Legislative Affairs, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, Washington, D.C.

58. **Former child actor in South Korea who joined US Army takes new role at UN Command**

(24 Jan) Stars & Stripes, By David Choi

A former child actor in South Korea who joined the US military takes on a new role in the UN command.

59. **Woman sues US military after bosses told her to 'appear more feminine'**

(25 Jan) The Hill, By Brooke Migdon

"This is about what they think a lesbian female should look like...It leaves me in such disbelief. They have made this my life."

60. **U.S. Army Alaska soldier dies in on-duty accident at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson**

(27 Jan) Alaska News Source, By Paul Choate

A U.S. Army Alaska soldier died during an on-duty accident at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, according to a news release from U.S. Army Alaska. Spc. Karolina Ferrer-Padilla, 20, was identified as the person who died.

WOMEN VETERANS

61. **Jacksonville Navy veteran competes in Ms. Veteran America event**

(3 Jan) First Coast News, By Anthony Austin

The Ms. Veteran America competition is described as an event that showcases the "woman beyond the uniform."

62. **'She's amazing': World War II veteran turns 103 in Black Mountain**

(12 Jan) ABC13, By Staff

A small crowd gathered around to sing "Happy Birthday" and clap for a World War II veteran who turned 103 years old Wednesday, Jan. 12 in Black Mountain. Bernice Liverett, now 103, served as medical transportation in the U.S. Army and married Buford Liverett in 1947 after he was discharged from the Navy.

63. **The VA's new mission: improve health of pregnant military veterans**

(13 Jan) NBC News, By Ali Vitali and Julie Tsirkin

A new law will pump \$15 million into maternity care at Department of Veterans Affairs facilities.