

## DEOMI News Highlights

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DEOMI News Highlights is a weekly compilation of published items and commentary with a focus on equal opportunity, equal employment opportunity, diversity, culture, and human relations issues. DEOMI News Highlights is also a management tool intended to serve the informational needs of equity professionals and senior DOD officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs, and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions.

### **Here's How Each Service Is Tackling Poor Military Base Housing Conditions [Oriana Pawlyk, *Military.com*, 25 February 2019]**

- Each of the military services this week has announced plans to conduct inspections of [base housing](#) and interviews with families to discover how badly service members have been impacted by unhealthy living conditions.
- In the wake of recent reports of neglected facilities and hazardous living conditions, as well as [ongoing pressure from lawmakers](#) to rectify the problem, the services issued directives on how they plan to address problems, including black mold, rodent and bug infestations, water damage, radon contamination, and faulty wiring.
- Issues over the safety of privately managed military housing were exposed last year in several months-long investigations by Reuters, titled “[Ambushed at Home](#).” They included reports of children poisoned [by lead](#) in older homes and families falling ill as the result of [mold growth](#) in new construction.

[Here's How Each Service Is Tackling Poor Military Base Housing Conditions](#)

### **Transgender Troops: Proposed Policy Is Discriminatory, Would Hurt Readiness [Patricia Kime, *Military.com*, 28 February 2019]**

- A [proposed Pentagon policy](#) on transgender troops and potential recruits is discriminatory and would diminish military readiness and lethality if implemented, a panel of transgender service members told a congressional subcommittee Wednesday.
- Testifying before Congress in civilian clothing because they were restricted under a Defense Department policy that limits uniform wear for non-military functions, Navy Lt. Cmdr. Blake Dremann and Hospitalman 3rd Class Akira Wyatt, Army Staff Sgt. Patricia King, and Army Capts. Alivia Stehlik and Jennifer Peace told House Armed Services Personnel Subcommittee members they have encountered [little pushback](#) from their units since transitioning and consider themselves highly effective leaders and members.
- The policy, drafted in February 2018 by then-Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, effectively would overturn one instituted in 2016 that allowed transgender troops to [transition](#) to the opposite gender while in the military and serve openly.

[Transgender Troops: Proposed Policy Is Discriminatory, Would Hurt Readiness](#)

### **Worries grow about White nationalism in the ranks [Leo Shane III, *Military Times*, 25 February 2019]**

- Lawmakers want to know if military and homeland security leaders are doing enough to monitor the armed forces for signs of White nationalism and other dangerous extremism in the wake of the arrest of a [Coast Guard lieutenant](#) with radical views who was plotting mass murder.
- In a letter to leaders at the [Departments of Defense](#) and Homeland Security on Monday, the group of Democratic House members said they want assurances that the recent case is not “indicative of a larger, systemic issue within the United States Armed Services.” They also said they are concerned with reports of [other racist activity in the ranks](#).
- Nearly 1 in 4 troops [polled by Military Times in 2017](#) said they had seen examples of White nationalism among their fellow service members. Among non-White members of the military, the figure was more than 40 percent.

[Worries grow about White nationalism in the ranks](#)

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## **Culture**

[National Memorial to Gulf War Veterans Moves Forward with Site Dedication](#)  
[Tuskegee Airman discusses 'the art of justice' at Fort Bragg talk](#)

## **Discrimination**

[ACLU: Records show police racially profiled, mocked U.S.-born Latino veteran detained by ICE](#)

## **Diversity**

[After Court Ruling, Here's What's Next for Women and the Draft](#)  
[Air Force May Have Its First Female Battlefield Airman This Spring](#)  
[Chicago will elect first Black female mayor; Lightfoot and Preckwinkle advance to runoff](#)  
[NASA renames facility for real-life 'Hidden Figures' hero Katherine Johnson](#)  
['Roma' made Yalitza Aparicio a star. Now she's giving a voice to her indigenous fans.](#)  
[She may be Florida's first lawyer with autism. And she's out to change lives and minds](#)  
[Takano announces congressional task force to address challenges facing female veterans](#)  
[Transgender Troops: Proposed Policy Is Discriminatory, Would Hurt Readiness](#)  
[When mom deploys](#)

## **Miscellaneous**

[Fighter jock culture may be holding Air Force back, Rand study says](#)  
[Fleet Forces: Navy Short 6,200 At-Sea Sailors Now to Meet New Manning Requirements](#)  
[Here's How Each Service Is Tackling Poor Military Base Housing Conditions](#)  
[Is VA shortchanging women's health programs?](#)  
[The Marine Corps is 'paranoid,' the Navy does not play with others. This new study analyzes the effects of service rivalries.](#)  
[New fitness test presents challenges for Army Guard](#)  
[New uniforms revealed! Fashionable and FREE!](#)  
[Supreme Court vacates appeals court gender-neutral pay ruling written by a deceased judge](#)  
[Survey Says: Majority of Spouses Satisfied With Military Life](#)  
[Targeted Messaging: Military Recruiters Getting Creative to Reach Gen Z](#)  
[Vermont lawmakers chooses 35-year vet to lead National Guard](#)

## **Misconduct**

[Marine gets 'adverse administrative action' for blaming statutory rape on underage girls](#)  
[Supreme Court: Retirees Can Be Court-Martialed for Crimes Committed After Service](#)

## **Racism**

[Doctors and Racial Bias: Still a Long Way to Go](#)  
[Maryland Del. Mary Ann Lisanti stripped of leadership post over use of racial slur](#)  
[A newspaper editor urged the KKK to 'ride again.' A Black woman is taking his place.](#)  
[Worries grow about White nationalism in the ranks](#)

## **Religion**

[Supreme Court seems to seek narrow way to uphold cross that memorializes war dead](#)

## **Sexism**

[He Was Fired for Degrading Female Marines. Now He Wants Marines to Learn from His Mistakes](#)

## **Sexual Assault/Harassment**

[West Point sets aside day to confront sexual harassment](#)