

DEOMI News Highlights

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.

DOD Officials Make Case for Keeping the Draft, Women Included [Patricia Kime, *Military.com*, 24 April 2019]

- The Selective Service System is an “inexpensive insurance policy” against a national emergency and should be modified to include women, a senior Defense Department official implied Wednesday during a hearing on the future of draft registration in the U.S.
- Asked whether [requiring women to register](#) for a potential draft would “result in a more lethal military,” Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Reserve Affairs James Stewart avoided answering the question directly, instead pointing out that all military occupations are now open to men and women and the military basically looks “for standards.”
- Until now, the Defense Department has stayed silent on the proceedings of the National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service, which is conducting a three-year review of public service in America, considering whether the U.S. needs the Selective Service System and if women should be required to register.

[DOD Officials Make Case for Keeping the Draft, Women Included](#)

Military Not Following Own Rules for On-Base Domestic Violence Investigations [Richard Sisk, *Military.com*, 25 April 2019]

- Military commanders and law enforcement personnel have been failing to follow their own rules regarding incidents of on-base domestic violence, according [a new report](#) from the Pentagon’s Office of Inspector General.
- Of 219 cases examined at eight installations, 201 were found not to comply with Defense Department policies on how they should be handled, the IG’s report states.
- The report makes six recommendations to the secretaries of the Army, Air Force, and Navy for prompt action, including making sure that “military service law enforcement practices, equipment, and supervisory reviews are adequate to comply with DOD policies when collecting evidence, conducting interviews” and notifying Family Advocacy Programs of potentially violent situations.

[Military Not Following Own Rules for On-Base Domestic Violence Investigations](#)

Supreme Court to take up LGBT job discrimination cases [Mark Sherman, *The Associated Press*, 22 April 2019]

- The Supreme Court is taking on a major test of LGBT rights in cases that look at whether federal civil rights law bans job discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.
- The justices said Monday they will hear cases involving people who claim they were fired because of their sexual orientation and another that involves a funeral home employee who was fired after disclosing that she was transitioning from male to female and dressed as a woman.
- The issue is whether Title VII of the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits sex discrimination, protects LGBT people from job discrimination. Title VII does not specifically mention sexual orientation or transgender status, but federal appeals courts in Chicago and New York have ruled recently that gay and lesbian employees are entitled to protection from discrimination. The federal appeals court in Cincinnati has extended similar protections for transgender people.

[Supreme Court to take up LGBT job discrimination cases](#)

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Culture

[Northam calls for Jefferson Davis arch on Fort Monroe to come down](#)

Discrimination

[California's CROWN Act seeks to end racial discrimination based on hairstyles](#)
[Did a Navy command retaliate against this junior sailor for reporting misconduct?](#)
[The Equal Rights Amendment is one state short of ratification. Will it be Missouri?](#)
[In California National Guard, whistleblower claims of retaliation go beyond Fresno](#)
[Google Employees Say They Faced Retaliation After Organizing Walkout](#)
[Supreme Court to take up LGBT job discrimination cases](#)

Diversity

[DOD Officials Make Case for Keeping the Draft, Women Included](#)
[National Guard in California, Nevada, Washington State, Oregon, and New Mexico Defy Trump's Trans Troops Ban](#)
[Trump administration prepares a rule civil rights groups worry may deny care to transgender patients](#)

Miscellaneous

[The Air Force Is on a Mission to Fix its Uniforms](#)
[The Army wants you to come experience life '#InOurBoots'](#)
[Iraqi interpreter earns US citizenship after being pulled from previous ceremony](#)
[Justices seem ready to OK asking citizenship on census](#)
[Utah man pushes for census to include veterans question](#)
[VA Won't Ramp Up Security After Rash of Suicides on Premises. Here's Why.](#)

Misconduct

[Feds: Coast Guard officer targeted Supreme Court justices](#)
[Illicit drugs ruined this sailor's career](#)
[Military Not Following Own Rules for On-Base Domestic Violence Investigations](#)
[More Discipline, Less Bleeding: General Defends Controversial New Policy](#)
[Navy cook booted for running with criminal motorcycle gang](#)
[Second Okinawa-based airman in four days arrested on suspicion of drunken driving](#)

Racism

[White supremacist executed for 1998 hate-crime killing of James Byrd Jr.](#)

Religion

[AP joins global initiative to expand reporting on religion](#)

Sexual Assault/Harassment

[Federal officials to review Wisconsin Guard assault protocol](#)
[Recording device reportedly found in women's bathroom aboard ship with the 22nd MEU](#)