

The Lamp Post

Shining the light in the dark
for trans service members & veterans



JAN 2025

Anniversary Issue



Addressing the Community

Today is the **fifth** anniversary of the Transgender Military Hub (TMH)! We've come so far in the past five years, from starting out with a smaller, slower growing Discord server, to becoming a community serving almost **700** service members, veterans, future service members, and some of their loved ones.

Now, we're more than just a community—we've become a force to be reckoned with. Between partnerships and committees on the staff and volunteer side, we're able to consistently improve user experience, and push products and services for the betterment of our community.

Thank you for being with us, and I look forward to the next five years!

-Catie

Paperwork Checklist

With the upcoming change of administration, it's a good idea to update name and/or gender marker on as much paperwork as you can, while you can. Here are some things to update:

- **Birth Certificate**
 - **Naturalization Certificate**, if you're a naturalized citizen
- **Social Security Administration record**
 - Your social security card won't show gender, but **SSA keeps a record** digitally
- **DEERS record**
 - Contact your personnel office
 - Also update: **DD-214**
- **VA Healthcare**
- **Federal ID (Passport, CAC, Veteran ID)**
- **State ID (Driver's License, Real ID)**

Looking Back

January marks our **fifth anniversary**. We've come a long way since 2020 and have developed reach that far exceeds expectations.

When we first formed, the Trump ban was still in place, and had been hitting in full force. We rallied the community together to form a cohesive live space, expecting maybe five or ten other people. Today we're just shy of 700, not counting those who have come and gone. From force-wide recognition to localized groups to peer support (in mental health and the medic line) to the various events - on and offline - & our team of volunteers the community has thrived since day one.

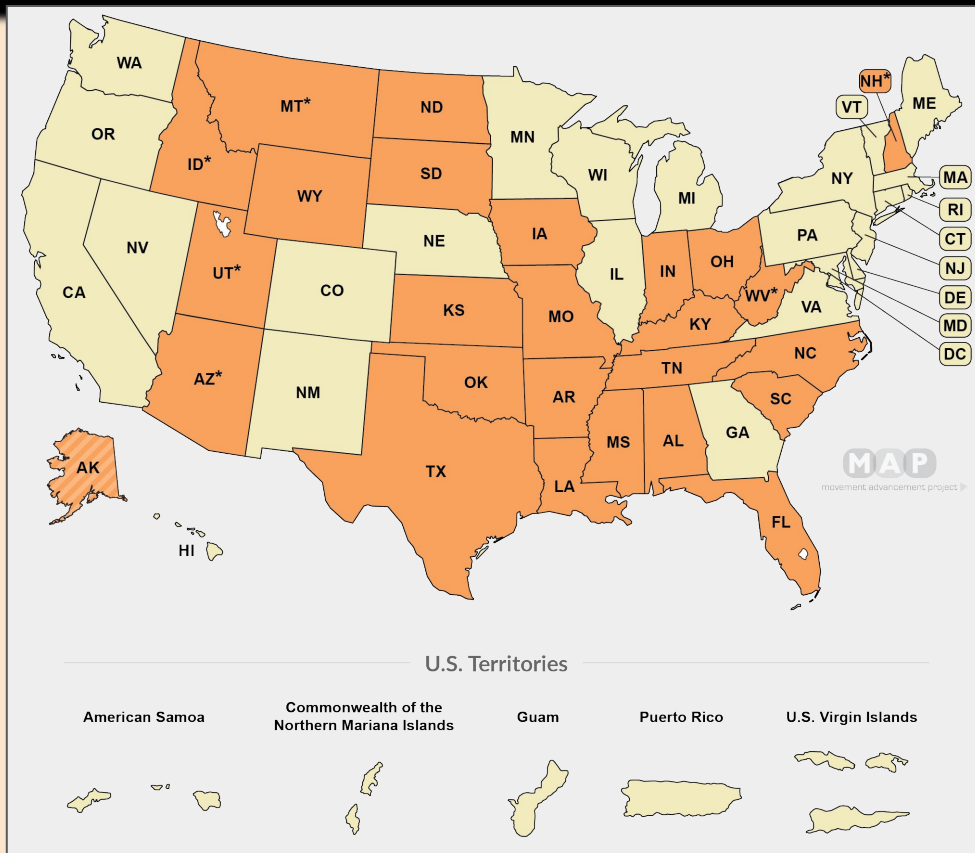
Now, things are looking bleak again. But we will **continue to stand**, as we have stood for years, to provide for the community and weather the storms on the horizon.

Taking STOCC

(Summarized Totality of Community Circumstances)

TITLE IX Withdrawn

As of Dec 20th the Department of Education (DoE) has **withdrawn the proposal of Title IX protections for Transgender athletes from elementary to the NCAA level**. If passed, would've more broadly protected gay and transgender students to participate in sports. Since 2020 there have been laws passed prohibiting transgender students from competing in sports. In total there are **25 states with state-laws** that have outright banned transgender students to participate; **1 state with regulations** to ban transgender students to participate in sports. However the SCOTUS have **temporarily blocked laws from taking effect in AZ, UT, WV, and ID**.



In the darker color are the states that has a ban.

In the lighter color are the states that don't have a ban at this time.

([MAP](#))

News from the Front

Quote from Kara Corcoran (SPARTA)

“SPARTAPride continues to work with other non-profit organizations, congress, key leaders, and many champions of open service and fighters from the DADT era to collaborate on purposeful media campaigns, legal strategies, and support initiatives. With the help of several key TMH members, our actions are very **deliberate** and carried out in a way that fosters **collaboration** to achieve the most effective means of supporting our service members. We defend against potential executive orders, and leverage media influence to shift the narrative. While we remain steadfast in fighting for the best possible outcomes, we understand the importance of planning for the worst. This dual approach ensures that we are prepared to address any challenge while maintaining a positive attitude and an unwavering commitment to protecting your **right to continue serving**. Every action we take keeps in mind the well-being of past, present, and future service members, along with their families. There is no doubt that the junior service members’ welfare is at the forefront of every action we take. We look forward to continuing our collaboration with TMH to ensure our success moving forward. Together, we will fight for your right to serve openly and with pride, no matter what obstacles may arise.”

Symbology



The first meaning of the triangle is the Greek Delta: a symbol for change, an inherent part of the trans experience.

The second meaning of the triangle is a reference to the historic Pink Triangle: the first reclaimed symbol of the queer community, predating the rainbow flag.

The third meaning of the triangle: Each leg, being slightly different in shape and direction, represent the trans masc, trans femme, and nonbinary experiences. All are different paths in different directions, but form a cohesive community.

The stars - in no particular order - represent the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Space Force, Coast Guard, and Civilians (those affected by the ban, civilian allies, and family members).

Queer History

On 2010 January 4th, Amanda Simpson was appointed as the senior technical advisor in the Bureau of Industry and Security. This was the first time an openly trans person was appointed to a high level government position. She went on to serve in Pentagon at various important positions until 2017. She continues to work for the LGBTQ+ community and in the field of aeronautics.



Community Spotlight

In this issue of The Lamp Post, we'd like to dedicate this section to give a huge shoutout to **Videl**! She's done amazing work bringing people together with her movie nights, game streams, and overall hanging out. It came at a perfect time, too, with the election results and seasonal blues. She has brought light and morale to the server as a whole and we want to appreciate her time, support, and kindness in an official capacity.

Thank you, Videl, for your hard work and love for the community, and may we be blessed with your presence for a long time to come.

Contact TMH Staff for [Submissions](#).

Upcoming Events

- TMH Anniversary
 - 04JAN25
- Movie Nights & Game Nights
 - Times TBD; See events calendar on discord
- TMH Town Hall Schedule
 - **25JAN25 @ 1430 EST**
 - 22FEB25 @ 1430 EST
 - 22MAR25 @ 1430 EST
 - 26APR25 @ 1430 EST
- Presidential Inauguration Stream
 - 20JAN25, Time TBD
- SPARTA Soft Landing
 - Dates/Times TBD
(usually 1900 EST)
 - Contact Evelyn Lee or Kaci McKinney

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