

The Lamp Post

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



Issue No.

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TDOV Issue



Addressing the Community

Happy Trans Day of Visibility!

I'm writing this after spending last night in community with other incredible advocates and leaders within our community at the Cashier Awards. It was a powerful reminder of the value of surrounding ourselves with those in the trenches with us. That support that we all feel with each other online is amplified when it's in person. So, lean on your localization networks and take that time to interact with peers, mentors, and friends.

We've been scoring victories in our fight, but there's still a long way to go. This isn't anything with an instant flash-to-bang. The road ahead is long and arduous, no matter where you're standing.

On this Trans Day of Visibility, we are charged with standing strong in the face of adversity. This time last year, there was an early looming that a storm was on the horizon. Now the storm is here. The winds will blow hard, but our roots are strong. Our community has a long history of resilience and survival. No matter what the future holds, we will always be there.

In spite of all that is put in our way, we will continue to stand strong for each other and for the defense of our people & our home.

As I always say:

Expect the worst; Hope for the best; Fight to bridge the gap.

Happy TDOV. Stay safe. Be good to yourselves and to each other.

-Catie

Taking STOCC

(Summarized Totality of Community Circumstances)

S2 Team

Currently we're waiting for the appeals court decision on the *Talbott* Case. They did place an emergency stay on the preliminary injunction from Judge Reyes.

The *Shilling* Case's Preliminary Injunction has also made it to the appeals court but it was not given the stay at this time. We're still waiting on that.

More to follow on the *Ireland* case as it develops.

There is a DOD memo that was sent out on Friday that states that they will adhere to the Preliminary Injunctions.

QUEER HISTORY

TRANS DAY OF VISIBILITY

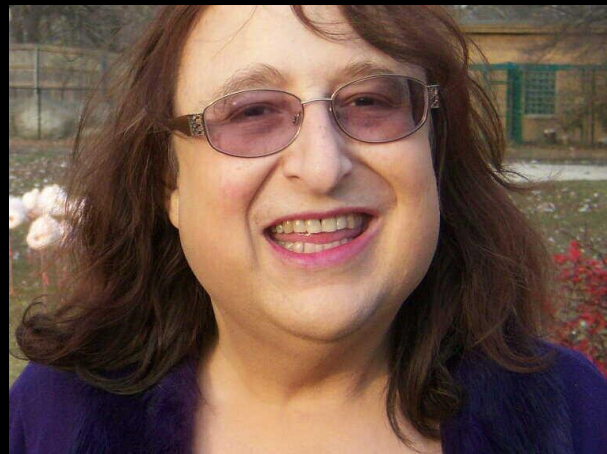
Transgender Day of Visibility (TDoV) is an annual event, celebrated on March 31st to honor and uplift transgender and non-binary people and raise awareness about the discrimination they face as a community. Originally established in 2009 by Rachel Crandall, it's a counterpart to the Transgender Day of Remembrance, which remembers the trans individuals who lost their lives due to violence. Various community events across the globe take place showing TransPride and increasing awareness of a marginalized community whom is consistently under scrutiny. It also serves as a method to rally support, and increase visibility in their communities.



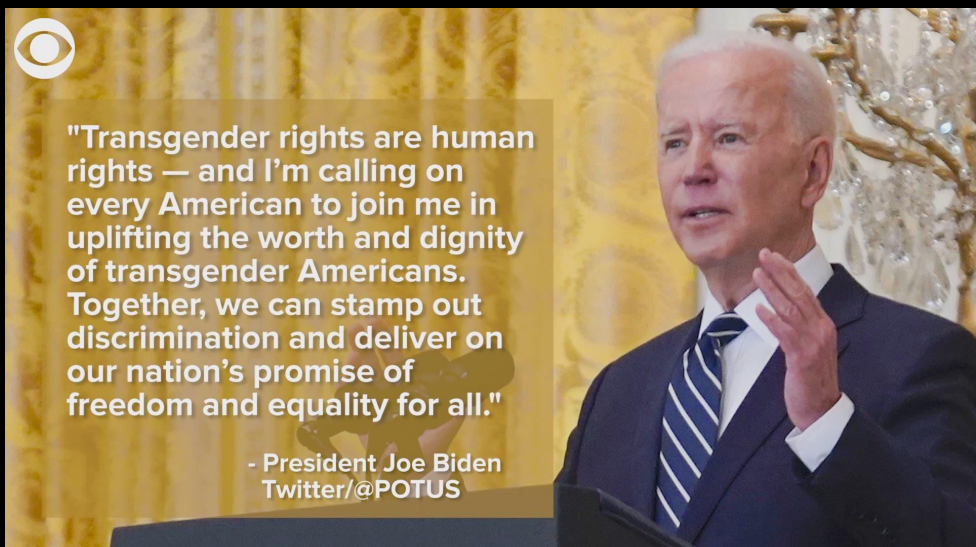
HISTORICAL FIGURES BEHIND TDoV

Rachel Crandall-Crocker - Creator of the International Transgender Day of Visibility, created because the only other day for transgender communities was the Transgender Day of Remembrance.

"I wanted a day that we can celebrate the living, and I wanted a day that all over the world we could be all together"



JOSEPH BIDEN - As president, proclaimed 29 March as Transgender Day of Visibility, dedicated emergency mental health support through the suicide and crisis lifeline (988), and called for Congress to pass the Equality Act, codifying civil rights protections for all LGBTQI+ Americans.



Albert Cashier Awards



Additionally, the Albert Cashier Awards are hosted by SPARTA Pride on 29 March 2025. They honor and recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to transgender military. They take their name from Albert Cashier, a famous Soldier and transgender man who served in the 95th Illinois Infantry enlisting in 1862 and eventually serving under Gen Ulysses S. Grant in the Army of Tennessee. He served in over 40 battles and over 9,000 miles before being honorably discharged in 1865. After the war, Cashier spent another 50 years living as his chosen gender before passing in October 1915 and being buried with full military honors.

The award winners were announced at the Human Rights Campaign Headquarters and are as follows:

- Lifetime - Speaker: Sue Fulton
- USSF: Bree Fram
- USAF: Evelyn Aurora Lee
- USN: Molly Sachman
- USA: Catie Nelson
- USMC: Sean Baldwin
- Veteran: Patricia King
- Ally: Cathy Marcello



Community Spotlight:

Weiss Kyr (She/They)

This week we would like to highlight a proud member of our community who got the opportunity to speak on behalf of TMH on the national stage. Weiss Kyr is an Airborne Cryptologic Language Analyst on the RC-135 Rivet Joint in the USAF. She has a passion for languages and uses her four languages to the benefit of the mission. She passes the time doing calligraphy and analogue photography and has an “overabundance of fountain pens and brushes.” Finally, she enjoys Historical European Martial Arts in the form of fencing!

Kyr was able to speak with Governor of Minnesota Tim Walz concerning military transgender servicemembers. She asked, “I enlisted in 2018. I love flying. I love learning languages and I wanted to serve my country and put my skills to use, but because of recent policy, I haven’t been able to deploy even though I would have been eligible pre-January. MY question is, for the thousands of service members like me, is there anything governors can do to help us do the jobs that we’re more than qualified to do?” She received a rousing applause from the crowd and asked a question many of us in TMH have been thinking, especially those in more LGBT friendly states.

After shaking hands with Gov. Walz, he had this to say, “This nation is less secure and less safe because of that dumbass decision that was made... And at no time in my service did I ever question where someone was as long as they did their job. And the highest form of service is being able to say, look, I’m willing to do this. I’m willing to go. This is an outrageous attack, not just on individuals, which it is and I’m sorry you’re going through this. It’s an outrageous attack on the fighting force that the world has ever seen. And its that way because its based-on merit, a meritocracy!”

For the clip use the following link:

https://www.instagram.com/reel/DHO7WVzOawI/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link



Contact TMH Staff or Sylvie on the TMH Discord for [Future Submissions](#).

Upcoming Events

- Friday Night Gaming
 - TMH Discord - Every Friday @ 1800 EST
- Pathfinders T4T
 - Veterans Group | Hang-out Night
 - Saturdays at 2100 EST
- TMH Town Hall Schedule
 - 26APR25 @ 1530 EST (Joint TH w/ SPARTA)
 - 24MAY25 @ 1530 EST
 - 28JUN25 @ 1530 EST (Stonewall Day)
 - 26JUL25 @ 1530 EST
 - 23AUG25 @ 1530 EST
 - 27SEP25 @ 1530 EST
 - 25OCT25 @ 1530 EST
 - 22NOV25 @ 1530 EST
 - 27DEC25 @ 1530 EST

To subscribe in an email, click [here](#).

To share a feedback, click [here](#).

Know Your Rights - Protect Yourself

If you are questioned about your gender identity, medical history, etc. remember that you have rights under the UCMJ. You are not obligated to answer questions that could incriminate you or lead to disciplinary action.

You have the right to...

- Remain silent and decline to sign any statement that could be used against you (Article 31)
- Legal counsel – consult with a military defense attorney or civilian counsel before answering any questions
 - **Waiving your rights may have significant or adverse consequences!**
- Decline to consent to search or seizure - when asked to provide access to personal medical records, electronic devices, or other private information, etc., consult with legal counsel first

Do not make assumptions about confidentiality!

This is not an exhaustive list of all of your rights!

<https://modernmilitary.org/report-an-incident>

How to Exercise Your Rights

Warnings!

Ask a military attorney if they are a defense attorney and if your conversation is confidential.

Command Legal Officers work for the commander, not you – anything you say to them may be used against you.

Anything you say to military doctors and psychologists may be used against you. Do not assume confidentiality.

Some military chaplains leak personal information that can be used against service members. See a defense attorney, not a chaplain, for legal issue.

Statements to friends, family, civilians, and military police can be used against you.

Computer based systems, texts, chats, and workplace emails may be used against you. Personal use of work computers violates most policies, is a bad practice, and is not confidential.

Personal items at work, such as diaries, letters, photos, and computer files may be used against you.

How to Exercise Your Rights

1. Stop answering questions and volunteering information
2. Say “I am exercising my Fifth Amendment Rights”
3. Say “I want to speak with a lawyer before any further questioning”
4. Say “I want to end the interrogation now.”
5. Stop talking and remove yourself from the situation.

How to Exercise Your Rights

- 1) Stop answering Questions and Volunteering Information.
- 2) Say "I am exercising my 5th Amendment Rights."
- 3) Say "I want to speak with a lawyer before any further questioning."
- 4) Say "I want to want to end the interrogation now."
- 5) Stop Talking and remove yourself from the situation.

WARNINGS:

- Ask a military attorney if they are a defense attorney and if your conversation is confidential. If "Yes," you can trust them; if "No," you cannot.
- Command Legal Officers work for the commander, not you- anything you say to them may be used against you.
- Anything you say to military doctors and psychologists may be used against you. Know who you can trust: Do Not Make Assumptions About Confidentiality, but seek mental health as needed and rely on your support systems.
- Some military chaplains leak personal information that can be used against service members. See a defense attorney, not a chaplain, for legal issues.
- Statements to friends, family, civilian, and military police can be used against you.
- Computer based systems, texts, chats, workplace emails may be used against you. They are not confidential. Personal use of work computers violates most policies and is a bad practice.
- Personal items at work, such as diaries, letters, photos, and computer files may be used against you.

Know Your Rights - Protect Yourself

If you are questioned about your gender identity, medical history, or any related matter, remember that you have rights under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). You are not obligated to answer questions that could incriminate you or lead to disciplinary action.

- **You Have the Right to Remain Silent and Not Sign Any Document**
 - Under Article 31 of the UCMJ, you have the right to remain silent or decline to sign any statement if your answers could be used against you in a court-martial or other proceedings.
 - You have the right to consult with a lawyer (Defense Attorney), or civilian counselor any time.
- **You Have the Right to Legal Counsel**
 - You have the right to consult with a military defense attorney or civilian counsel before answering any questions or making any statements.
 - **Waiving your rights** may have significant or adverse consequences.
 - Under Article of the UCMJ, you have the right to remain silent if investigated.
- **You have the Right to not Consent to Search or Seizure**
 - If asked to provide access to personal medical records, electronic devices, or other private information, do not consent without consulting legal counsel.
- **Do Not Make Assumptions About Confidentiality**
 - Conversations with your chain of command, medical professionals, or peers may not be confidential. Exercise caution when discussing sensitive matters.

 This is not an exhaustive list of all of your rights
<https://modernmilitary.org/report-an-incident/>