

The Lamp Post

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



Issue No.

19

FEB 2026



Addressing the Community

Tangibility of efforts, results, and outcomes is something that we all want to see. Unfortunately, this will take time. And in many cases, the progress will be slow, but steady, and be imperceptible if we don't stop to look for it.

The immediate issues right now are on survival. Whether that looks like job security, housing, VA/pay issues, INVOL boards, or whatever the case may be, nobody can be an effective part of the team if the basics aren't taken care of. This is why hostile actors target the essentials for our community.

If the essentials are taken care of for you, get involved. There are no small jobs or contributions. Local efforts are going to be our main effort going forward. Get into a localization chat if you haven't already. If there's stagnation (in any line of effort), break it. You all have my full support to exercise disciplined initiative to make connections, help our community, and advance the broader struggle for trans liberation.

As I always say: expect the worst, hope for the best, and fight to bridge the gap.

-Catie

TMH Town Hall



February 2026

Agenda

- J2
- Tech Development Team
- Veterans
- Current SMs
- Localization
- Rally Point Event

J2

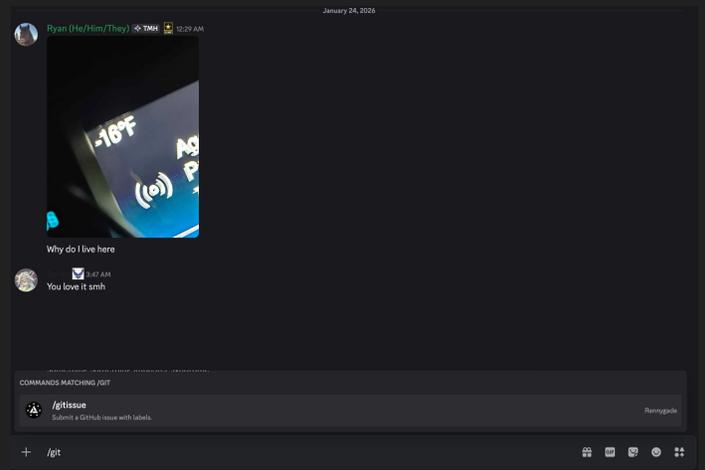


- **Kansas**
 - Full brief pushed in Signal Announcements
 - Prioritize safety
 - Fight back within individual risk calculus
- **INVOLSEP Boards**
 - Active Duty // Army // Hawaii // Declined to Retain
 - J2 Legal Expert present
 - 1 Other Upcoming
- ***Talbott* movement**
 - Rebuttal submitted to government's filing
 - Highlighting animus in DoD policies
- **Iran**
 - Strikes today; retaliation in Qatar & UAE
 - Limited scope, expanded scale
 - Not a direct indicator of all-out war (precedent)

Tech Development Team

- Bot Bug Reporting
 - Use the /gitissue command in any channel
 - Fill out the form that comes up
 - This will automatically get sent to Ren and the tech team
- QA Testers
 - Looking for more people to help
 - Send a DM to Ren
 - You get a free rare sticker for helping

Screenshot of bug reporting command



Veterans

- VA Issues
 - Be persistent with the VA for everything
 - Use appeals & supplemental claims
 - Ensure your dependents are listed (as necessary)
 - Do NOT post about your rating online
- Employment
 - LinkedIn Skills Verification Initiative
 - Temp Agencies
 - Localization Networking
 - References for volunteering
- Benefits
 - Check your GI Bill
 - No more SMCRA
- Activism
 - Separatees
 - No more UCMJ restrictions
 - Make them feel the mistake
 - Retirees
 - Some UCMJ restrictions
 - More than while a current SM
 - All Vets
 - Integrate into local queer and/or veteran groups
 - Leverage their resources for our community
 - Capitalize on our national reach and military skills for communicating, organizing & executing.

Current SMs

Closeted (Pre-Transition)

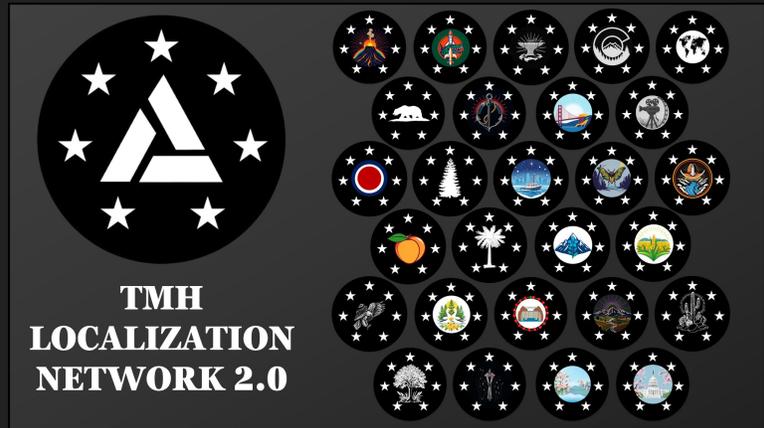
- Stay in touch with the community
- Carve out places to be yourself
 - Get a hotel off base for a long weekend
 - Make your home a safe space (if possible)
 - Stay active in queer digital spaces
- Utilize off-base civilian BH resources
- Find supportive people & build your network
- ***This is not permanent. One day the ban will be lifted.***

Stealth (Transitioned)

- Stay in touch with the community
- Advocate “as an ally”
- Utilize a medic/corpsman for drug tests
 - You don’t owe details for why
 - It is your right
 - Medical personnel are HIPPA-bound
- Have a discovery plan
 - Fight for admin leave
 - Stay informed on court cases & other INVOL boards
 - Have legal contacts on stand-by

This slide will be repeated every month & updated as necessary

Localization



- Get involved
- Come up on the net for access or movement
- Break stagnation
- Don't be afraid to ask for more granular groups as needed
- Goals
 - Socialization
 - Community Support
 - Advocacy
- You'll get out what you put into them



Staging
Area QR
Code



Coalition Rally Point

- 28-29 MAR 2026
- Virtual & Physical
 - HRC HQ, DC
- Held/Conducted ICW
 - No Kings
 - TDOV Weekend
 - Cashier Awards
- Community Network class
 - Localization focus
 - Good info for getting involved
- Kara (Sparta ED) Brief



CONTACTS/LINKS

Elise, Pathfinders/VA: kelleyt2024@gmail.com

Berry Law: andy.blevins@berrylaw.com

PTSDlawyers.com

Benefits Delivery at Discharge:

<https://www.benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/benefits-delivery-discharge-program.asp>

TLP Submissions: marcie.kulp.tmh@gmail.com /
marcie.kulp.tmh@proton.me

Q'mmunity House: <https://minorityvets.my.canva.site/qhouse>

Volunteer Recruitment Form: <https://wkf.ms/4o68Xq8>

Teepublic Merch Page:

<https://www.teepublic.com/user/sudden-sentience>

TMH Stickers/Patches/Coins:

<https://forms.gle/MPpcJZSAa6wDdhjk7>

Project Ember: <https://forms.gle/Qiu38P8TEUGrz9VZ7>

LinkedIn Skill Endorsement/Matching : <https://wkf.ms/49iGxVH>



Out and Out Anthology
Submissions

Signal Staging Area



OUT AND OUT

Call for Submissions STILL OPEN: "Out and Out" Anthology

We are working on the critical project, "Out and Out," a curated anthology of poetry, short fiction, and creative non-fiction/essays from Trans and GNC folks impacted by the US Military Trans Ban along with LGBTQ+ service members and veterans, Trans and GNC veterans, and Trans military spouses.

Your Story Matters. Join us in creating a powerful collection that documents and honors your experiences.

OUT AND OUT

What We're Seeking

We are looking for creative written work from service members (current or former) affected by the ban, LGBTQ+ service members, and trans spouses:

- Poetry
- Short Fiction
- Creative Nonfiction / Essays
- Artwork

How to Submit

The submission period is OPEN! Please choose the method that works best for you:

Submission Method Details

Google Form (Preferred):

<https://forms.gle/TfaqTY9LyEPRzjDk9>

Submission Email: westillexist.project@outlook.com

OUT AND OUT

Project Impact & Credit

Fundraising: 100% of proceeds from books sold via Trans Military Hub (TMH) will be returned to the organization for community support.

Credit & Anonymity: You can choose to remain completely anonymous, OR If you include your name with your work, you will be credited in the book.

Don't wait! Submit your powerful work today!

Volunteers

With some great goals for TMH in 2026, we'll need more volunteers to help with everything we hope to achieve. If you'd like to help in any way, ping Kilele in the #general-chat channel. She'll get you added to the Volunteer Signal chat.



J2 Messaging

As of 26 February 2026, Kansas will no longer recognize state issued identification that does not match an individual's "birth sex" (Driver's License Law) and will allow individuals to file a civil lawsuit against anyone they suspect to be trans and in a bathroom that doesn't align with the trans person's "birth sex." Below are details:

-Driver's License Law: If you had a Kansas driver's license with your "birth sex" and have changed your gender marker, you are at highest risk of facing penalties and ID confiscation. Kansas will need evidence of your original birth certificate AND a state ID that conflicts with that original birth certificate to enforce this law against you. If they do not have this evidence, we do not recommend voluntarily revealing yourself by turning in your license.

J2 Messaging

-Bathroom Bounty Law: Those who do not conform to a gendered norm are at most risk here. If you have a valid state ID that reflects the correct gender, you may be at a lower risk of lawsuit, especially those who have a non-Kansas ID.

We also would not advise anyone to worry about automatic suspensions that would prevent getting an ID in another state. However, those with changed KS BC's need to retain copies of BC's with the correct marker.

TMH is continuing to look into resources for our affected community members and ways to combat this harmful legislation. In the meantime please create a plan to stay safe, even if that means temporarily leaving the state.

Advocacy Corner

Take a look at the positions and people holding those positions local to you. Is the head of your local school board elected or appointed? Is it being held by someone who is advocating for trans inclusion or are they suspiciously silent? What about the local library board? Your city's mayor or county seats?

Get to know which positions can be used to make the lives of all trans individuals, including trans veterans, harder to not only exist, but thrive and flourish. Look at not only official campaign stances, regardless of when they last campaigned. But also look at voting history on policies and stances that impact you and other trans individuals.

Start attending county commissioner meetings, school board meetings, and anything else where policies are brought up, discussed, and voted on. Get involved at a level you're comfortable with, and based on your personal safety calculus. But watch the process, be aware of the positions and people, and find ways to voice support for trans inclusion and support locally; for all trans individuals.

Queer History

Queer History this issue will be skipped due to TDOV later this month, and we would like to compile a larger entry.

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
(1530EST)
 - 28MAR26
 - 25APR26
 - 23MAY26
 - 27JUN26
- The Lamp Post Publications
 - 29MAR26
 - 26APR26
 - 24MAY26
 - 28JUN26
- Coalition Rallypoint
 - 28-29MAR26 (virtual)
- TMH Day Activities
 - 04 January 2027 1500