

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON**

RYAN KARNOSKY *et al.*,

Plaintiffs,

v.

DONALD J. TRUMP *et al.*,

Defendants.

Civil Action No. 2:17-cv-1297

**DECLARATION OF CAPTAIN GREGORY C. HUFFMAN, UNITED STATES NAVY
(Relating to Petty Officer First Class Terece Lewis)**

I, Captain Gregory C. Huffman, UNITED STATES NAVY, do hereby state and declare as follows:

1. I am a Captain serving on active-duty in the United States Navy and currently assigned as the Commanding Officer of USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74), homeported in Bremerton, Washington. I have served on active duty since 1989, most recently as Chief of Staff, Naval Air Forces Atlantic. I make this declaration in my official capacity based on my personal knowledge and on information provided to me in the course of my official duties. This declaration is submitted in support of the defendants' motion to dismiss the above-captioned action and in opposition to the plaintiffs' motion for a preliminary injunction. In particular, I address below the current status of plaintiff Machinist's Mate Petty Officer First Class (PO1) Terece Lewis, U.S. Navy.
2. In my role as Commanding Officer, I have absolute responsibility for the safety, well-being and mission effectiveness of USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74). Based on my current position and past experience, I am familiar with the Department of the Navy's policies and regulations regarding accession and retention requirements, including those found in

Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) 6130.03, and the Chief of Naval Operations Instruction (OPNAVINST) 3110.1J; policies and regulations relating to administrative separations, including those found in DoDI 1332.14, Bureau of Naval Personnel Instruction (BUPERSINST) 1001.39F, and the Military Personnel Manual (MILPERSMAN) 1910 (series); as well as policies and regulations relating to service by transgender individuals, including DoDI 1300.28; ALNAV 053/16; and the Secretary of Defense's Interim Guidance issued on September 14, 2017.

3. The Interim Guidance prohibits the involuntary separation or discharge of a Sailor due to his or her transgender status or diagnosis of gender dysphoria. My unit is in compliance with this policy and no Sailor, to include PO1 Lewis, is currently pending separation or discharge due to his or her transgender status or gender dysphoria diagnosis. Nor will any Sailor in my unit face such a separation on that basis, absent a change in the existing policy. Further, no Sailor in my unit whose term of service expires while the Interim Guidance is in effect will be denied re-enlistment due to his or her transgender status. Accordingly, PO1 Lewis will not be discharged due to PO1 Lewis' transgender status while the Interim Guidance is in effect.
4. PO1 Terece Lewis is currently serving as a NAMTS Hydraulics Repair Technician, as a Shipboard Elevator Hydraulic/Mechanical System Mechanic, and as Waste Management Leading Petty Officer. In PO1 Lewis' current position, PO1 Lewis is responsible for conducting maintenance and repairs on various engineering systems on a nuclear powered aircraft carrier as well as the proper processing of waste through various shipboard systems. PO1 Lewis' official files kept by the United States Navy (USN) and in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) currently identify PO1 Lewis as male. Petty Officer

Lewis made an official name change to Terece and received an official identification card reflecting this name change on May 27, 2015.

5. PO1 Lewis first disclosed to my command that Navy Medicine had formally diagnosed PO1 Lewis with gender dysphoria on March 1, 2017. On April 4, 2017, PO1 Lewis requested approval of a formal gender transition plan. That plan was approved on June 29, 2017. The approved plan calls for PO1 Lewis to receive [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. Under the plan, PO1 Lewis' gender marker will be changed once a military medical provider confirms that gender transition is complete.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I hereby declare under penalty of perjury that the forgoing is true and correct.

Executed this 16th day of October 2017, onboard USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74) at Bremerton, Washington.



Gregory C. Huffman
Captain, U.S. Navy

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on October 16, 2017, I electronically filed the foregoing declaration using the Court’s CM/ECF system, causing a notice of filing to be served upon all counsel of record.

Dated: October 16, 2017

/s/ Ryan Parker
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