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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

AIDEN STOCKMAN; NICOLAS
 TALBOTT; TAMASYN REEVES;
 JAQUICE TATE; JOHN DOES 1-2;
 JANE DOE; and EQUALITY
 CALIFORNIA,

Plaintiffs,

v.

DONALD J. TRUMP, et al.

Defendants.

CASE NO. 5:17-CV-01799-JGB-KK

JOINT RULE 26(F) REPORT

Assigned to The Hon. Jesus G. Bernal

Scheduling Conference:

Date: May 14, 2018

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Courtroom 1

1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA,
2 Plaintiff-Intervenor,
3 v.
4 DONALD J. TRUMP, et al.
5 Defendants.
6

7 In accordance with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(f), Local Rule 26-1,
8 and the Court’s Standing Order Setting Scheduling Conferences, counsel for Aiden
9 Stockman, Nicolas Talbott, Tamasyn Reeves, Jaquice Tate, John Does 1-2, Jane
10 Doe, and Equality California (collectively, the “Named Plaintiffs”) and counsel for
11 Defendants initially conferred on January 4, 2018, and counsel for the Named
12 Plaintiffs, Plaintiff-Intervenor the State of California (and collectively with the
13 Named Plaintiffs, “Plaintiffs”), and Defendants conferred by email on several
14 occasions throughout February and March 2018, and submit the following Rule 26(f)
15 Report (the “Report”) for the Court’s consideration. Nothing stated herein shall be
16 deemed an admission by any party, and this Report shall not be admissible in any
17 subsequent hearing or trial in this or any other litigation.

18 **1. Statement Of The Case**

19 **a. Named Plaintiffs’ Statement**

20 In June 2016, the United States Department of Defense announced a policy
21 permitting transgender people to enlist in the military and serve openly. In
22 response, transgender service members (including certain of the Named Plaintiffs
23 in this case) identified themselves as transgender to their chain of command, and
24 many took steps to obtain transition-related medical care. In addition, other
25 transgender individuals (including certain of the Named Plaintiffs in this case) took
26 steps to enlist.

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1 On July 26, 2017, Defendant President Donald J. Trump announced via
2 Twitter that “the United States Government will not accept or allow transgender
3 individuals to serve in any capacity in the U.S. Military.” On August 25, 2017,
4 Defendant President Trump formalized that reversal of policy, directing his co-
5 Defendants to reinstate the ban “on military service by transgender individuals that
6 was in place prior to June 2016.” The Defendants announced a plan to implement
7 that ban on March 23, 2018 (the “Implementation Plan”). The Implementation Plan
8 excludes transgender people from military service, as directed by President Trump;
9 as such, it is substantively the same ban this Court preliminarily enjoined. Under its
10 terms, those Plaintiffs who seek to enlist are barred from doing so; those transgender
11 Plaintiffs who are already serving and who wish to come out and live consistent with
12 their gender identity will be discharged if they do so; and those transgender Plaintiffs
13 who already are serving and already have transitioned or begun to transition may
14 continue to serve only on sufferance and under conditions of fundamental inequality.

15 Plaintiffs seek permanent injunctive relief prohibiting Defendants from
16 implementing the ban on military service by transgender individuals as a violation
17 of Plaintiffs’ rights under the United States Constitution. The ban discriminates
18 against Plaintiffs on its face—denying them the equal protection of the laws, their
19 fundamental rights to liberty and privacy, and their right to freedom of expression—
20 simply because they are transgender. No legitimate state interest, let alone one that
21 is important or compelling, justifies Defendants’ discrimination.

22 **b. State of California’s Statement**

23 The State of California is home to approximately 92,000 transgender adults.
24 Like their fellow Californians, transgender residents proudly serve in our nation’s
25 military and our State’s National Guard and have done so, albeit silently, for
26 decades. In August 2017, without any legitimate justification or deliberation,
27 President Trump reversed policy and banned military service by transgender
28 individuals.

1 In this action, California seeks to protect the State and its residents from this
2 patently discriminatory federal policy. If left unchallenged, the transgender
3 military ban would impede the California National Guard’s ability to recruit and
4 retain members to protect the State’s natural resources in times of need; force
5 California to violate its anti-discrimination laws and discriminate against its own
6 residents in staffing the California National Guard; and threaten the State’s ability
7 to safeguard its public institutions of higher education from discrimination in their
8 ROTC programs. California joins the Named Plaintiffs in seeking permanent
9 injunctive relief prohibiting Defendants from implementing the ban on military
10 service by transgender individuals.

11 **c. Defendants’ Statement**

12 This case is moot. Plaintiffs filed this action challenging the President’s
13 August 25, 2017 Memorandum regarding military service by transgender
14 individuals. ECF No. 1, Prayer for Relief, ¶¶1-2. That Memorandum has now been
15 officially revoked, ECF No. 84-3, and the Department of Defense has announced a
16 new policy regarding military service by transgender individuals that focuses on
17 addressing a medical condition – gender dysphoria – and the medical treatments for
18 that condition, ECF Nos. 83-1, 83-2. As the only action that Plaintiffs have
19 challenged in their Complaint – the President’s August 25, 2017 Memorandum – has
20 been revoked and is no longer in effect, there is not a live case or controversy before
21 this Court, and Plaintiffs’ Complaint should be dismissed.

22 Even if Plaintiffs were to amend their complaint to challenge DoD’s new
23 policy, they would likely lack standing to bring their claims. DoD’s new policy
24 generally allows currently serving service members who have been diagnosed with
25 gender dysphoria to continue serving in their preferred gender and receive
26 medically necessary treatment for gender dysphoria. ECF No. 84-1.

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1 Issues of mootness and standing are presented to the Court in Defendants’
2 motion to dissolve the preliminary injunction, and this case should not proceed
3 until those threshold issues are decided.

4 **2. Subject Matter Jurisdiction**

5 The Court has subject matter jurisdiction over Plaintiffs’ claims pursuant to
6 28 U.S.C. sections 1331 and 1343. The Court has further remedial authority under
7 the Declaratory Judgment Act, 28 U.S.C. sections 2201 and 2202 *et seq.*

8 **3. Legal Issues**

9 **a. Plaintiffs’ Statement Of Legal Issues**

- 10 i. Whether the ban of transgender people from military service (the
11 “ban”) constitutes discrimination based on sex and transgender
12 status. .
- 13 ii. Whether the ban warrants heightened scrutiny.
- 14 iii. Whether the ban is rationally related to a legitimate government
15 interest.
- 16 iv. Whether the ban substantially advances an important government
17 interest.
- 18 v. Whether the ban is necessary to advance a compelling government
19 interest.
- 20 vi. Whether the Constitution’s guarantees of liberty and privacy protect
21 a person’s fundamental right to live in accord with their gender
22 identity.
- 23 vii. Whether the ban impinges upon that fundamental right.
- 24 viii. Whether that impingement on a fundamental right is rationally
25 related to a legitimate government interest.
- 26 ix. Whether that impingement on a fundamental right substantially
27 advances an important government interest.

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- 1 x. Whether that impingement on a fundamental right is necessary to
- 2 advance a compelling government interest.
- 3 xi. Whether the anti-retroactivity component of the Due Process Clause
- 4 prohibits Defendants from penalizing transgender service members
- 5 for conduct previously induced.
- 6 xii. Whether the ban suppresses speech or expression.
- 7 xiii. Whether the ban’s suppression of speech or expression is based on
- 8 the content or viewpoint of the speech or expression being
- 9 suppressed.
- 10 xiv. Whether the ban’s suppression of speech or expression is necessary
- 11 to advance a compelling government interest.

12 **b. Defendants’ Statement Of Legal Issues**

- 13 i. Whether this case is moot.
- 14 ii. Whether Plaintiffs can establish standing.
- 15 iii. Whether the final policy adopted by the Department of Defense
- 16 is consistent with the guarantees of the Constitution.

17 **4. Parties, evidence, etc.**

18 Plaintiffs in this case are active service members in the United States military
19 who are transgender (Jaquice Tate, John Doe 1, John Doe 2, and Jane Doe),
20 transgender individuals who wish to enlist in the military (Aiden Stockman, Nicolas
21 Talbott, Tamasyn Reeves), Equality California, the nation’s largest statewide
22 LGBTQ civil rights organization, whose members include transgender persons who
23 serve in the Armed Forces and transgender persons who wish to enlist, and the State
24 of California, which is home to approximately 92,000 transgender adults, many of
25 whom serve proudly in the United States military and the California National Guard.

26 Defendants are officers of the United States of America with command and
27 control of the United States military, including President Donald J. Trump, Secretary
28 of Defense James N. Mattis, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Joseph F. Dunford

1 Jr., Secretary of the Navy Richard V. Spencer, Secretary of the Army Mark T.
2 Esper¹, Secretary of the Air Force Heather A. Wilson, and Secretary of Homeland
3 Security Kirstjen Nielsen².

4 **5. Damages**

5 No monetary damages are sought in this case.

6 **6. Insurance**

7 Because this is a case for injunctive and declaratory relief, insurance coverage
8 is not at issue.

9 **7. Motions**

10 Defendants' Motion to Dissolve the Preliminary Injunction (Dkt. No. 82) is
11 currently pending before the Court. Plaintiffs filed an Opposition on April 25, 2018.
12 (Dkt. No. 98.) Defendants' Reply, if any, is due May 7, 2018. (See Dkt. No. 89.)
13 A hearing is set for May 14, 2018. (*Id.*)

14 **8. Manual for Complex Litigation**

15 The parties do not believe that, at this time, this case warrants the application
16 of the procedures of the Manual for Complex Litigation.

17 **9. Status of Discovery**

18 **a. Plaintiffs' Position**

19 Defendants contend that the Implementation Plan renders Plaintiffs' claims
20 moot and that this case is now governed by the Administrative Procedure Act, and,
21 thus, are refusing to engage in discovery at this time. Defendants' positions are
22 unreasonable; discovery should proceed as permitted under the Federal Rules of
23 Civil Procedure.

24 First, and as an initial matter, to the extent Defendants claim the
25 Implementation Plan materially changes this litigation (which it does not), those

26 ¹ Mark T. Esper has been automatically substituted as the Secretary of the Army
27 pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 25(d).

28 ² Kirstjen Nielsen has been automatically substituted as the Secretary of Homeland
Security pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 25(d).

1 issues will be resolved in connection with Defendants’ pending Motion to Dissolve
2 the Preliminary Injunction (Dkt. No. 82). In the event that Motion to Dissolve is
3 denied, there is no basis for Defendants to contend that Plaintiffs’ claims are moot
4 or to bring further dispositive motions related to the very same issues. And, in any
5 event, there is no legitimate basis to delay discovery at this time.

6 Second, Plaintiffs’ constitutional claims are not subject to record review
7 pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act (the “APA”). As the courts in both
8 *Doe, et al. v. Trump, et al.*, No. 17-CV-1597 (D.D.C.), and *Karnoski, et al. v. Trump,*
9 *et al.*, No. 2:17-CV-1297 (W.D. Wash.) recently held, plaintiffs are not required to
10 proceed under the APA where they assert direct constitutional claims, and discovery
11 in a constitutional challenge is not limited to an administrative record. *Doe*, Dkt.
12 114 at 2; *Karnoski*, Dkt. 235 at 2; *see also Bolton v. Pritzker*, Case No. 15-cv-
13 1607MJP, 2016 WL 4555467, at *4 (W.D. Wash. Sept. 1, 2016) (“a direct
14 constitutional challenge is reviewed independent of the APA and as such the court
15 is entitled to look beyond the administrative record in regard to such a claim”).

16 Defendants should not be permitted to delay resolution of this case further by
17 declining to participate in discovery. The parties have had extensive discussions
18 regarding discovery over the last 4 months. In January 2018, Plaintiffs agreed not
19 to serve discovery requests that would be duplicative of those served in the Related
20 Cases (as defined below) so long as Defendants agreed to provide Plaintiffs with
21 access to all documents and information produced by Defendants in those actions.
22 Defendants agreed, and Plaintiffs relied on that representation. However,
23 Defendants have repeatedly delayed and moved the line. Just a few weeks ago,
24 Defendants assured Plaintiffs that they would provide the promised discovery
25 promptly upon entry by the Court of the negotiated Uniform Protective Order and
26 Cross-Use Agreement and the separate Federal Rule of Evidence 502(d) Order. The
27 Court entered both orders on April 25, 2018 (Dkt. Nos. 96, 97), but Defendants still
28 have not produced the discovery from the Related Cases in this case. On May 3,

1 2018, Defendants advised for the first time that they were still “evaluating”
2 unspecified clawback issues and were unable to provide a date certain by which they
3 would produce the information they are obligated under the Uniform Protective
4 Order and Cross-Use Agreement to produce.

5 There is no good cause for further delay of discovery in this action.
6 Defendants have declined to agree to a date for exchange of initial disclosures as
7 required by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(1). However, Plaintiffs are
8 prepared to provide their initial disclosures on May 18, 2018, and request that this
9 Court set a deadline for the exchange of initial disclosure.

10 Plaintiffs reserve their rights with regard to all further discovery issues, and
11 will raise those with the Magistrate Judge in the event they are unable to resolve any
12 disputes informally.

13 **b. Defendants’ Position**

14 This case is moot. If Plaintiffs choose not to amend their complaint,
15 Defendants intend to file a fully dispositive motion and discovery should not proceed
16 until Defendants’ motion has been decided.

17 If Plaintiffs are planning to amend their complaint, they should be required to
18 do so by June 1, 2018. If Plaintiffs’ amended complaint challenges the Department
19 of Defenses’ decision to adopt a new policy regarding military service by
20 transgender individuals, this case will be subject to record review pursuant to the
21 Administrative Procedure Act, which is the avenue Congress has provided for
22 judicial review of agency actions, and no discovery will be appropriate.

23 **c. Joint Statement**

24 If discovery proceeds in this case, the parties intend to coordinate as possible
25 with the other pending actions challenging the Government’s policy regarding
26 military service by transgender individuals in an attempt to make the discovery
27 process as efficient as possible. *See infra* § 10.b.

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1 **10. Discovery Plan**

2 **a. Subjects on Which Discovery May Be Needed**

3 **i. Plaintiffs' Statement**

4 Plaintiffs anticipate that depositions will be needed of some or all of the
5 witnesses identified on the parties' Rule 26(a) Initial Disclosures. Plaintiffs submit
6 that written and deposition discovery of parties, non-parties, and experts will be
7 needed on, but not limited to, the following subjects:

- 8
- 9 • The scope and findings of any review by Defendants, or their agents, of
10 the June 30, 2016 policy permitting open service by transgender
11 individuals ("June 2016 Policy") before July 26, 2017.
 - 12 • Planning or training sessions associated with the implementation of the
13 June 2016 Policy.
 - 14 • Planned policies, practices, or procedures to implement the June 2016
15 Policy with respect to accessions of transgender applicants into military
16 service.
 - 17 • Findings, if any, made by the Department of Defense or any Service
18 Branch between June 30, 2016 and July 26, 2017 concerning the effect
19 of open service by transgender persons on cohesion, readiness, or
20 lethality.
 - 21 • Findings, if any, made by the Department of Defense or any Service
22 Branch between June 30, 2016 and July 26, 2017 concerning the effect
23 of open service by transgender persons on cohesion, readiness, or
24 lethality.
 - 25 • Deliberations, studies, or reviews within the Executive Office of the
26 President or Department of Defense concerning military service by
27 transgender people between January 20, 2017 and July 26, 2017.
 - 28 • Communications between any member of the United States Congress
(or their staff) and Defendants, or any individual within the Executive

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Office of the President, concerning military service by transgender people between January 20, 2017 and July 26, 2017.

- The planning and publication of the President’s July 26, 2017 Twitter statement (“Twitter Statement”) that “After consultation with my Generals and military experts, please be advised that the United States Government will not accept or allow Transgender individuals to serve in any capacity in the U.S. military. Our military must be focused on decisive and overwhelming victory and cannot be burdened with the tremendous medical costs and disruption that transgender in the military would entail. Thank you[.]”
- The implementation or formalization of the President’s Twitter Statement.
- The drafting, meaning, and implementation of the August 25, 2017 Directive and the ban.
- The basis for the President’s statement included in the August 25, 2017 Directive that “the previous Administration failed to identify a sufficient basis to conclude that terminating the Departments’ longstanding policy and practice would not hinder military effectiveness and lethality, disrupt unit cohesion, or tax military resources.”
- Actual costs associated with funding “sex reassignment surgical procedures for military personnel” before August 25, 2017.
- Evidence, including any evidence that pre-dates August 25, 2017, that open service by transgender individuals would “hinder military effectiveness and lethality,” and “disrupt unit cohesion.”
- The drafting, meaning, and implementation of the Interim Guidance.
- The execution of the study referenced in the Interim Guidance, as well as the “panel of experts” performing the study.

- 1 • Any discussions or actions, taken between August 25, 2017 and the
- 2 present, related to studying or investigating military service by
- 3 transgender individuals.
- 4 • The Implementation Plan.

5 ii. **Defendants’ Statement**

6 As set forth above, because Plaintiffs’ claims are now moot, no discovery
7 should be permitted in this case. If Plaintiffs amend their complaint to challenge
8 the Department of Defense’s new policy regarding military service by transgender
9 individuals, this case will be subject to record review pursuant to the
10 Administrative Procedure Act, which is the avenue Congress has provided for
11 judicial review of agency actions. On April 20, 2018, Defendants filed the
12 administrative record of the Department of Defense’s decision to adopt a new
13 policy regarding military service by transgender individuals with the Court. *See*
14 ECF No. 93.

15 **b. Discovery Coordination**

16 This case is one of four pending lawsuits challenging President Trump’s
17 August 25 Directive regarding military service by individuals who are transgender
18 (the “Related Cases”). The Related Cases are, in addition to this case: (i) *Doe, et al.*
19 *v. Trump, et al.*, No. 17-CV-1597 (D.D.C.); (ii) *Stone, et al. v. Trump, et al.*, No.
20 1:17-CV-02459 (D. Md.); and (iii) *Karnoski, et al. v. Trump, et al.*, No. 2:17-CV-
21 1297 (W.D. Wash.). Defendants’ position is that discovery should not proceed in
22 any of the four cases because the Department of Defense has issued a new policy
23 regarding military service by transgender individuals. Defendants contend that the
24 Department of Defense’s new policy moots the Plaintiffs’ claims and deprives them
25 of standing. Plaintiffs disagree. As discussed above, Plaintiffs contend that the
26 Implementation Plan is not a “new” policy, but a continuation of the ban announced
27 last year, and that discovery should proceed here as it is proceeding in each of the
28 Related Cases. Defendants disagree.

1 Four depositions have been taken in the related case *Doe v. Trump*. While
2 two of these depositions were specific to declarations and issues in that case, counsel
3 for Plaintiffs attended one of the two depositions that overlapped with the issues in
4 this case, and participated telephonically in the other. Other depositions have been
5 scheduled in the Related Cases, but postponed. Plaintiffs in this case and the
6 plaintiffs in the three Related Cases either have named or have indicated their intent
7 to name as witnesses the following six individuals: Brad Carson, former Under
8 Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness; Deborah Lee James, former
9 Secretary of the Air Force; Raymond Mabus, Jr., former Secretary of the Navy; Eric
10 K. Fanning, former Secretary of the Army; George Richard Brown, Professor of
11 Psychiatry at East Tennessee State University; and Mark Eitelberg, Professor of
12 Public Policy at the Naval Postgraduate School. These six individuals appear to be
13 offering the same testimony in all four Related Cases. If discovery proceeds,
14 Defendants intend to depose these individuals once for all four Related Cases.

15 The parties—along with the parties in the Related Cases—have agreed to and
16 have entered Uniform Protective Order and Cross-Use Agreement to govern the
17 confidentiality of materials and information produced in discovery, as well as the
18 inadvertent disclosure of privileged materials and information (Dkt. Nos. 96, 97)

19 Discovery produced (including deposition testimony) by a party in *Doe*,
20 *Stone*, or *Karnoski*—including third-party discovery—shall be deemed to have been
21 produced in this case, and Plaintiffs shall be permitted to access, rely upon, and
22 introduce evidence produced or obtained in any of the Related Cases, except to the
23 extent that discovery produced in the Related Cases relates only to the individual
24 plaintiffs (*e.g.*, individual service member records).

25 As for depositions, if Plaintiffs here choose to question a deponent in a
26 deposition scheduled in one of the Related Cases, that deposition will account for
27 one of Plaintiffs' deposition slots (*see infra* § 10.d "Discovery Limitations").
28 Similarly, if Defendants here choose to question a deponent in one of the Related

1 Cases, other than the named plaintiffs, that deposition will account for one of
2 Defendants' deposition slots. The parties agree that attendance by counsel to this
3 action at a deposition noticed in one of the Related Cases shall not count against the
4 number of depositions each side is permitted to take unless such counsel presents
5 questions to the deponent on the record.

6 **c. Discovery Period and Phasing**

7 The parties do not believe phased discovery is necessary. If discovery
8 proceeds, the discovery period should conclude not later than October 1, 2018.

9 **d. Discovery Limitations**

10 If discovery proceeds, each side (Plaintiffs and Defendants) agrees that they
11 shall be limited to 15 depositions, subject to the clarification in the preceding section
12 (*see supra* § 10.b "Discovery Coordination"). A 30(b)(6) deposition accounts for
13 one deposition slot, even if the recipient of the 30(b)(6) notice designates more than
14 one individual to testify on the topics requested. Consistent with Rule 33 of the
15 Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the parties agree that each side shall be limited to
16 25 interrogatories. Other than these limitations, the parties do not anticipate the need
17 for any changes to the limitations on discovery imposed under the Federal Rules of
18 Civil Procedure or this Court's Local Rules. The parties will seek leave of Court if
19 such changes become necessary.

20 **e. Electronically-Stored Information**

21 If discovery proceeds, the parties agree that electronically stored information
22 ("ESI") is likely to be responsive to discovery requests in this case. The parties
23 will negotiate an ESI protocol.

24 **f. Confidentiality and Privilege Issues**

25 **i. Plaintiffs' Statement**

26 This case concerns, in part, whether Defendants' ban on transgender military
27 service violates the equal protection and substantive components of the Due
28 Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment. Plaintiffs assert that President Trump's

1 actions in promulgating the ban lack a legitimate basis and reflect an improper
2 discriminatory purpose, ; that Defendants complied with the President’s order to
3 develop a plan to implement the ban; that the resulting policy cannot satisfy
4 examination under any level of scrutiny, much less the heightened scrutiny this
5 Court has applied.

6 To litigate these issues, Plaintiffs are entitled to discovery regarding the
7 basis of the President’s initial decision and the subsequent implementation process.
8 Should a particular confidentiality or privilege dispute arise in the course of
9 discovery, the parties should work to resolve that dispute, and, if they cannot, to
10 present the issue to the Court for resolution. This Joint Report, however, is not the
11 appropriate forum to address such issues. Defendants’ submission below is thus
12 premature and inappropriate to the extent it asks this Court to predetermine
13 Defendants’ right to a blanket assertion of privilege and certain limitations on
14 discovery on account of President Trump being named as a defendant. Defendants
15 are not entitled to such blanket assertions of privilege. *See, e.g., In re Sealed Case*,
16 121 F.3d 729, 749, 752-54 (D.C. Cir. 1997) (qualified privilege of presidential
17 communication is to be construed narrowly, and is overcome where “the evidence
18 sought [is] directly relevant to issues that are expected to be central to the trial,”
19 where such “evidence is not available with due diligence elsewhere”); *Dellums v.*
20 *Powell*, 561 F.2d 242, 248-49 (D.C. Cir. 1977) (refusing to apply presidential
21 communications privilege to recorded communications between the White House
22 and Department of Justice officials where there was evidence “that the Department
23 of Justice played a leading role” in “substantial violations of constitutional rights”
24 and recordings were needed “to establish [the attorney general’s] responsibility for
25 the violations”); *In re Subpoena Duces Tecum Served on the Comptroller of the*
26 *Currency*, 145 F.3d 1422, 1424 (D.C. Cir. 1998) (the deliberative process privilege
27 “is not appropriately asserted . . . when a plaintiff’s cause of action turns on the
28 government’s intent.”). Plaintiffs reserve their rights to raise these, and any other

1 arguments, to the extent Defendants decline to provide information or documents
2 through the course of discovery.

3 **ii. Defendants' Statement**

4 Because Plaintiffs claims are moot, there should be no discovery in this case.
5 Moreover, even if Plaintiffs amended their complaint to challenge the Department
6 of Defense's new policy, their claims would be subject to record review under the
7 Administrative Procedure Act.

8 If discovery does proceed in this case, there are likely to be significant
9 privilege issues. Plaintiffs have named the President as a defendant in this case,
10 and they have stated above their intent to conduct discovery regarding the
11 "[d]eliberations, studies, or reviews within the Executive Office of the President or
12 Department of Defense concerning military service by transgender people between
13 January 20, 2017 and July 26, 2017"; "[c]ommunications between any member of
14 the United States Congress (or their staff) and Defendants, or any individual within
15 the Executive Office of the President, concerning military service by transgender
16 people between January 20, 2017 and July 26, 2017"; and the "planning and
17 publication," as well as the "implementation or formalization" of the President's
18 July 26, 2017 statement.

19 Plaintiffs should not be permitted to seek discovery from the President. The
20 Supreme Court has held that it has "no jurisdiction of a bill to enjoin the President
21 in the performance of his official duties," *Mississippi v. Johnson*, 71 U.S. 475, 501
22 (1866); *see also Franklin v. Massachusetts*, 505 U.S. 788, 802–03 (1992), and
23 lower courts often have applied the same principle, *see, e.g., Hawaii v. Trump*, 859
24 F.3d 741, 788 (9th Cir.), *vacated on other grounds, Trump v. Int'l Refugee*
25 *Assistance Project*, 138 S. Ct. 377 (2017) (finding that the Government's position
26 that "district court erred by issuing an injunction that runs against the President
27 himself" is "well taken" and "vacat[ing] the district court's order to the extent the
28 order runs against the President"). Because the Court lacks jurisdiction to enjoin

1 the President in the performance of his official duties, it cannot order discovery of
2 the President.

3 Even assuming the President were a proper defendant and could be subject
4 to a civil discovery order, discovery directed to the President in civil litigation
5 would raise significant separation-of-powers concerns and should not be allowed.
6 *Cheney v. U.S. Dist. Court for the Dist. of Columbia*, 542 U.S. 367, 385 (2004).
7 The Court in *Cheney* noted that the public interest requires that a coequal branch of
8 Government ““afford Presidential confidentiality the greatest protection consistent
9 with the fair administration of justice.”” *Id.* at 382 (quoting *United States v. Nixon*,
10 418 U.S. 683, 715 (1974)). Moreover, “special considerations control when the
11 Executive Branch’s interests in maintaining the autonomy of its office and
12 safeguarding the confidentiality of its communications are implicated.” *Id.* at 385.
13 Accordingly, the Court should, at a minimum, first require Plaintiffs to exhaust
14 alternative sources of non-privileged discovery before subjecting the President to
15 discovery.

16 In addition, the presidential communications privilege shields from
17 discovery the President’s “communications in performance of [his]
18 responsibilities,” *Nixon*, 418 U.S. at 711, or “documents or other materials that
19 reflect presidential decisionmaking or deliberations,” *In re Sealed Case*, 121 F.3d
20 729, 744 (D.C. Cir. 1997). The privilege also protects communications authored or
21 solicited and received by immediate White House advisers in the Office of the
22 President and their staff. *See id.* at 752.

23 Finally, to the extent that Plaintiffs seek discovery from the President, the
24 information sought may also be subject to other privileges, including, but not
25 limited to, the deliberative process privilege, attorney-client privilege, and attorney
26 work product.

27 Likewise, to the extent that Plaintiffs seek information from other
28 defendants, that information may be subject to privileges, including, but not

1 limited to, the deliberative process privilege, attorney-client privilege, and attorney
2 work product.

3 **11. Discovery Cut-Off**

4 If discovery proceeds, the parties request that the discovery cut-off in this
5 case be set for October 1, 2018.

6 **12. Expert Discovery**

7 If discovery proceeds, expert depositions will be completed in advance of
8 the general discovery cut-off.

9 **13. Dispositive Motions**

10 Defendants plan to file a motion to dismiss or, in the alternative, for summary
11 judgment. Plaintiffs have not yet filed, but expect to file, a motion for summary
12 judgment.

13 **14. Settlement / Alternative Dispute Resolution**

14 Counsel for the parties have discussed the nature and basis of their claims
15 and defenses and the possibilities for prompt settlement of the case. They have not
16 been able to reach an agreement to settle at this time and do not believe that further
17 discussions would be fruitful at this stage of the litigation.

18 **15. Trial Estimate**

19 Plaintiffs have not demanded a jury trial and the Parties do not believe a
20 bench trial should take more than 10 court days. The trial date in this action will
21 need to be coordinated with any trials scheduled in *Doe v. Trump*, No. 17-1597
22 (D.D.C.), *Stone v. Trump*, No. 17-2459 (D. Md.), and *Karnoski v. Trump*, No. 17-
23 cv-1297 (W.D. Wash.).

24 **16. Trial Counsel**

25 Plaintiffs' trial counsel will be:

- 26 • Latham & Watkins LLP (Marvin S. Putnam, Amy C. Quartarolo, Adam
27 S. Sieff, and Harrison J. White);

28 ///

- 1 • National Center for Lesbian Rights (Shannon P. Minter and Amy
- 2 Whelan);
- 3 • GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (Jennifer Levi and Mary L.
- 4 Bonauto); and,
- 5 • California Department of Justice (Mark R. Beckington, Gabrielle D.
- 6 Boutin, Enrique A. Monagas).

7 Defendants' trial counsel will be:

- 8 • Ryan Parker, U.S. Department of Justice
- 9 • Andrew Carmichael, U.S. Department of Justice
- 10 • Ashley Cheung, U.S. Department of Justice
- 11 • Courtney Enlow, U.S. Department of Justice
- 12 • Robert Norway, U.S. Department of Justice
- 13 • Matthew Skurnik, U.S. Department of Justice

14 **17. Independent Expert or Master**

15 The parties do not believe appointment of a master pursuant to Rule 53 is
16 necessary at this time, but will continue to evaluate this possibility as discovery
17 progresses.

18 **18. Timetable**

19 Pursuant to the Court's Standing Order, Plaintiffs propose the case schedule
20 attached as Exhibit A hereto. As set forth above, Defendants' position is that
21 discovery should not proceed in this case because Plaintiffs' claims are moot and
22 any claims challenging the Department of Defense's new policy should be governed
23 by the APA. Should the Court direct discovery to proceed, however, Defendants
24 have proposed a case schedule in Exhibit A.

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28 ///

1 Dated: May 4, 2018

LATHAM & WATKINS LLP

2 Marvin S. Putnam
3 Amy C. Quartarolo
4 Adam S. Sieff
5 Harrison J. White

6 By: /s/ Amy C. Quartarolo
7 Amy C. Quartarolo

8 *Attorneys for Plaintiffs*
9 *Aiden Stockman, Nicolas Talbott, Tamasyn*
10 *Reeves, Jaquice Tate, John Does 1-2, Jane*
11 *Doe, and Equality California*

12 CALIFORNIA DEPT. OF JUSTICE

13 Xavier Becerra
14 Mark R. Beckington
15 Gabrielle D. Boutin
16 Enrique A. Monagas

17 By: /s/ Enrique A. Monagas
18 Enrique Monagas

19 *Attorneys for Plaintiff-Intervenor*
20 *State of California*

21 UNITED STATES DEPT. OF JUSTICE

22 Chad A. Readler
23 Brett A. Shumate
24 John R. Griffiths
25 Anthony J. Coppolino
26 Ryan B. Parker
27 Andrew E. Carmichael

28 By: /s/ Ryan B. Parker
Ryan B. Parker

Attorneys for Defendants
Donald J. Trump, et. al.

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ATTESTATION

Pursuant to Civil Local Rule 5-4.3.4(a)(2)(i), I, Amy C. Quartarolo, attest under penalty of perjury that I have obtained concurrence and authorization from Ryan B. Parker of the U.S. Department of Justice, and Enrique Monagas of the California Department of Justice, to affix their electronic signatures to this filing.

Dated: May 5, 2018

By: /s/ Amy C. Quartarolo
Amy C. Quartarolo