

The Honorable Marsha J. Pechman

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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT SEATTLE**

RYAN KARNOSKI, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

DONALD J. TRUMP, et al.,

Defendants.

No. 2:17-cv-1297-MJP

**DECLARATION OF  
STEPHANIE A. BARNA**

I, Stephanie A. Barna, do hereby declare as follows:

1. I am the Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower and Reserve Affairs), Performing the Duties of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, within the Department of Defense (DoD). In this capacity, I am responsible for Total Force management, including military readiness and training, and military personnel requirements. I have served in this capacity since March 30, 2018. From June 2014 through March 2018, I served first as the Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense (Readiness and Force Management) and subsequently performed both the duties of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) and the duties of the Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness. In these roles, I served as principal advisor to the Secretary of Defense and the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness) on all personnel matters,

DECLARATION OF STEPHANIE A. BARNA  
*Karnoski, et al. v. Trump, et al.*, No. 2:17-cv-1297 (MJP)

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**  
Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch  
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
Tel: (202) 514-4336

1 including civilian and military personnel policies, reserve affairs, Total Force Planning and  
2 Requirements, and diversity. I also served in senior leadership positions in the Department of  
3 the Army as a career senior executive, and retired from the U.S. Army Reserve in 2011 in the  
4 grade of Colonel.

5 2. In my current role, I have oversight responsibility for the drafting and implementation of  
6 policy concerning military service by transgender individuals.

7 3. In the exercise of my official duties, I have been made aware of this lawsuit and the  
8 related litigation involving DoD transgender service policy. The information in this declaration  
9 is based on my personal knowledge and on information made available to me in my official  
10 capacity.

11 4. On February 22, 2018, the Secretary of Defense, with the agreement of the Secretary of  
12 Homeland Security, sent the President a memorandum proposing a new policy regarding military  
13 service by transgender persons. The memorandum was accompanied by a 44-page report  
14 detailing the proposed policy and explaining the rationale for it. On March 23, 2018, the  
15 President issued a memorandum that revoked his August 2017 memorandum and any other  
16 directive he may have made on military service by transgender persons, thereby allowing the  
17 Secretaries of Defense and Homeland Security to implement their proposed policy.

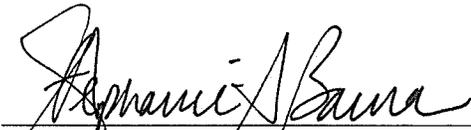
18 5. The proposed policy includes an exemption for “transgender Service members who were  
19 diagnosed with gender dysphoria by a military medical provider after the effective date of the  
20 Carter policy, but before the effective date of any new policy.” Report 43. Under the policy,  
21 these Service members “may continue to receive all medically necessary treatment, to change  
22 their gender marker in DEERS, and to serve in their preferred gender, even after the new policy  
23 commences.” *Id.*

24 6. The Department included this exemption because of its commitment to honor the  
25 reasonable expectations of Service members “who were diagnosed with gender dysphoria and  
26 either entered or remained in service following the announcement of the Carter policy and the  
27 court orders requiring transgender accession and retention” and because of the “substantial

1 investment" it has made in them. *Id.* Consistent with these purposes, the Department will, if  
2 permitted to implement its proposed new policy, exempt any Service member who was  
3 diagnosed with gender dysphoria prior to the effective date of the Carter policy and has  
4 continued to serve and receive treatment pursuant to the Carter policy after it took effect.

5 Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746(2), I declare under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing  
6 is true and correct.

7 Executed on May 18, 2018 

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10 STEPHANIE A. BARNA