Transgender American Veterans Association
Hilton Garden Inn Atlanta Midtown
97 10th St NW, Atlanta, GA 30309
Friday, September 25, 2020 –
Sunday, September 27, 2020
### Conference Agenda

**25 September 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:00 pm to 6:00 pm</td>
<td>Registration and Reception</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 pm to 8:00 pm</td>
<td>Self-guided tour options in Atlanta/Invitation Only Leader’s Meeting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**26 September 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am to 9:00 am</td>
<td>Continental Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am to 9:45 am</td>
<td>Opening Address: <strong>Evan Young, President, TAVA</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Keynote Address: <strong>Kristin Beck, Lady Valor</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:45 am to 10:30 am</td>
<td>Presentation: <strong>Navigating the VA, Nicole Vansant, VA LGBT VCC</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 am to 10:45 am</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45 am to 11:15 am</td>
<td>Presentation: <strong>Mental Health, Zander Keig, Cohen Group</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15 am to 12:00 pm</td>
<td>Presentation: <strong>Q &amp; A Panel with morning speakers</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 pm to 1:30 pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 pm to 2:15 pm</td>
<td>Presentation: <strong>DD-214 Name Change, Stephen Lessard, Orrick Law Firm</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15 pm to 3:00 pm</td>
<td>Presentation: <strong>Advocacy and You, Andrea Zekis</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 pm to 3:45 pm</td>
<td>Presentation: <strong>Personal Story of Resilience and Power, Laila Ireland</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:45 pm to 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Free Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 pm to 4:05 pm</td>
<td>Meet Hotel Lobby for Transportation to Atlanta Braves Game</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 pm to 9:00 pm</td>
<td>Atlanta Braves Baseball Game</td>
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**Optional Significant Other Excursions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am to 9:15 am</td>
<td>Meet Hotel Lobby</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15 am to 9:30 am</td>
<td>Transportation to excursion via Metro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 am to 12:00 pm</td>
<td>Excursion 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 pm to 1:00 pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 pm to 3:00 pm</td>
<td>Excursion 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 pm to 3:30 pm</td>
<td>Transportation to hotel via Metro</td>
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# Conference Agenda (Continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am to 9:00 am</td>
<td>Continental Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am to 9:30 am</td>
<td>Transportation to Outreach Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 am to 11:00 am</td>
<td>Outreach Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am to 11:30 am</td>
<td>Transportation to Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 am to 12:00 am</td>
<td>Closing Remarks: <strong>Evan Young, President TAVA</strong></td>
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About TAVA

The Transgender American Veterans Association is a grassroots organization that advocates for equality for transgender veterans and active duty service members in healthcare, benefits, and open transgender military service to name a few areas of advocacy. We help veterans change their name and gender within the Department of Veteran affairs, update their DD 214 name and characterization of discharge, and provide services such as our transgender support locator, which offers local support for transgender persons. TAVA is committed to equal rights for all veterans.

TAVA is active by having our voice heard in key VA and DoD high level meetings. Our role as an organizational plaintiff with Lambda Legal and the Transgender Law Center has increased awareness and demanded answers from the VA regarding transition-related surgeries.

Daily, we assist Veterans in coming out to their doctors, educating VA staff on the VA directive for transgender care, and guiding those in need of updating their DD-214 Form. We also provide community and comradeship through our membership. You can become a member of TAVA by donating anywhere from $1 and upwards. The money raised goes directly to helping transgender Veterans.

Mission

Founded in 2003, the Transgender American Veterans Association (TAVA) is a 501 (c) 3 organization that acts proactively with other concerned gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) organizations to ensure that transgender veterans will receive appropriate care for their medical conditions in accordance with the Veterans Health Administration’s Customer Service Standards promise to “treat you with courtesy and dignity . . . as the first class citizen that you are.” Further, TAVA will help in educating the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Department of Defense (DoD) on issues regarding fair and equal treatment of transgender and transsexual individuals. Also, TAVA will help the general transgender community when deemed appropriate.

Goals

Transgender American Veterans Association goals include:

- Treatment of veterans who suffer from Gender Dysphoria with the dignity promised those who have served our country.
- Provision of authorized medical and mental health services to veterans without regard to their history of Gender Dysphoria.
- Provision of Gender Dysphoria related medical and mental health to veterans in accordance with the Benjamin Standards of Care.
- Assist any GLBT organization who helps active duty transgender and transsexual persons by providing detailed insight to these issues.
- To partner with any group or organization for the betterment of all American veterans, regardless of their transgender status.
Speakers

Kristin Beck

- Retired Navy SEAL with 20 years of experience on special operations teams including SEAL Team Six
- Awarded more than 50 ribbons and medals including the Bronze Star with valor and the Purple Heart
- Civil rights activist and key voice in the Congressional Bill to end discrimination towards the LGBT community
- Shares inspiring and motivational stories that touch on her service and “new mission” of fighting for equality for all Americans

Kristin Beck is a retired United States Navy SEAL, who served for more than 20 years in the Special Operations Forces, as well as a civil rights advocate. Over the course of 13 deployments and seven combat deployments, she conducted special operations with small UAVs, HUMINT, and direct action missions. Her final tours were with the counter-terrorism Naval Special Warfare Development Group (DEVGRU or “SEAL Team Six”) to head the Special Reconnaissance units and various Task Forces as a HUMINT source handler and technical operations director. For her service, she has been awarded more than 50 ribbons and medals, including the Bronze Star with valor, the Purple Heart, and the Meritorious Service Medal. She is exclusively represented by Leading Authorities, Inc. speaker’s bureau.

In 2009, Kristin was requested by name to be the Advisor to SOCOM’s Science Director, Mr. William Shepherd (SEAL/Astronaut). She became an integral part of SOF technology and advancements while serving in this capacity. She has prepared and briefed position papers on SOF-unique technology for State Department and White House approvals. As a result of these outstanding achievements, Kristin Beck received the coveted NDIA 2010 Special Operations Award.

Now a civil rights activist, she gives speeches and lectures at various events around the country. Kristin was a key voice in the Congressional Bill to end discrimination toward the LGBT community. She continues her “new mission” fighting for equality for all Americans and a documentary story of her life, Lady Valor: The Kristin Beck Story, aired on CNN in 2014.

Today, Beck is known as “Lady Valor” and offers services in consulting, full spectrum law enforcement training, motivational and informational speeches, innovation collaborations, art and other original works such as books, comic books, screenplays, painting/pottery/abstract multimedia pieces.

In February 2015, Kristin registered as a candidate in the 2016 US Congressional race. She is a Democrat and ran against Steny Hoyer, who has been an incumbent in that office since 1981.
Veteran Laila Ireland is a retired Combat Medic and served for 12 years in the United States Army. She served two combat tours in Iraq and her final duty station was at Tripler Army Medical Center, Hawaii where she was honorably discharged and medically retired in November 2015.

Laila’s advocacy and activism began in 2012 with the LGBT military advocacy organizations OutServe Trans and SPART*A. Through these groups she has spoken about the intersections of being transgender, female, a person of color, and a spouse to a transgender service member while actively serving in the military.

On June 4, 2015 Laila and her then fiancé, SSgt Logan Ireland, courageously came out as transgender service members by sharing their story in the Emmy®-nominated New York Times short film "Transgender, at War and in Love." The film highlighted their struggles as a military couple who are both transgender as a way of advocating to change the policies banning their service. Their story became one of The Times' most viewed online short films and garnered Laila and Logan’s invitation to The White House Pride Reception to meet President Barack Obama. The film went on to win The White House News Photographers Association’s “Best Documentary,” and was nominated for a GLAAD Award and was a 2016 Emmy® nominee for "Outstanding Short Documentary." More of Logan and Laila’s story is featured alongside two other transgender service members in the 2018 SXSW Audience Award winning feature length documentary, “TransMilitary.”

Some notables, The American Military Partners Association presented Laila with their "Military Spouse Leadership Award" in 2016. She also became the 2017 Military Spouse of the Year on Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado. In 2018, the Oregon Gay and Lesbian Law Association awarded Laila with the Innovator award.

Today, Laila advocates for LGBTQ2 youth, veterans, and transgender equity by speaking in schools, installations and businesses across our nation. She serves as the Membership Director to SPART*A Trans; an organization of over 950* members, established and operated for and by trans*military individuals, and she volunteers with local Colorado LGBTQ non-profits to empowers trans people through gender affirming programs. While she isn't on the LGBTQ trail, she serves as the key spouse leader for Logan’s unit.
Stephen Lessard

Stephen C. Lessard is a senior associate in the Tax Group at Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP where his practice includes the taxation of financial products, debt and equity offerings, cross-border transactions, and mergers and acquisitions. He is active with the firm’s Diversity and Recruiting Committees and serves in the leadership of the firm’s Veterans Forum and LGBT Affinity Group. He has engaged in a number of pro bono projects, including providing tax advice to non-profit organizations, assisting veterans to upgrade their military discharge, providing life planning advice to LGBT individuals, and volunteering with the Servicemembers’ Legal Defense Network advising military personnel on the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy.

Mr. Lessard is a member of the National LGBT Bar Association’s Military Working Group, where he handled a project representing transgender veterans seeking to amend their military documents to reflect name changes. This project resulted in the military services revising their policies to permit transgender veterans to change the name on their discharge certificates to match their gender identity.

During a 20-year career with the U.S. Navy, Mr. Lessard served in a number of positions on ships and ashore as a Surface Warfare Officer. He was honored with various personal and unit awards, including the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, and Navy Achievement Medal.

Mr. Lessard graduated from Texas A&M University and received a Master of Arts degree from the University of Virginia. He earned his law degree from Georgetown University Law Center. Mr. Lessard currently serves as President of the New York County Lawyers Association and is a member of the American Bar Association House of Delegates, the New York State Bar Association (NYSBA) House of Delegates, and the NYSBA Committee on Veterans. He was named a Minority Corporate Counsel Association 2015 Rising Star and to the New York Metro Super Lawyers Rising Stars list for 2014 through 2018. He also received a NYSBA 2016 President’s Pro Bono Service Award. Mr. Lessard is admitted to the Bar in New York, the United States Tax Court, and the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.
Ms. Andrea Zekis of Little Rock, Arkansas is a nationally recognized transgender activist and community grassroots leader. She’s a 2020 Presidential Management Fellowship finalist with graduate degrees in Public Service from the University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service, Geographic Information Systems from the University of Central Arkansas and Broadcast Journalism from Syracuse University.

She co-founded the Arkansas Transgender Equity Collaborative in 2014, where she helped advance access to legal, medical and economic resources for transgender and non-binary Arkansans through community-led projects. Her civil rights career has included stints with Human Rights Campaign Arkansas, National Center for Transgender Equality, Basic Rights Oregon, American Civil Liberties Union of Alaska and the American Atheists.

A Victory Empowerment Fellow in 2015, Zekis is known for being one of the first transgender Americans to introduce and publicly endorse a major party Presidential Candidate which she did for Senator Bernie Sanders of Vermont in March 2016. Zekis is based in Washington, DC where she enjoys hiking and watching baseball games as pastimes.
Zander Keig

Zander Keig, a proud Veteran of the U.S. Coast Guard, is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) and Board-Certified Diplomate in Clinical Social Work (BCD) providing empirically supported culturally and linguistically appropriate patient centered trauma informed care.

Prior to joining the Cohen Veteran Network (CVN), Zander worked with the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) in the Healthcare for Homeless Veterans Program (HCHV) at VA Medical Center’s in San Francisco, Oakland and San Diego, CA and with the Bureau of Navy Medicine and Surgery (BUMED) in the Case Management Department at Naval Medical Center San Diego.

From July 2016 to January 2019 Zander served as the Navy Medicine West Regional Transgender Care Team Clinical Social Work Case Manager. His work directly impacted the 225 Service members (Sailors, Marines & Coasties) who were navigating a Commanding Officer approved gender transition while on active duty. In addition, he is a recognized Transgender Subject-Matter Expert by the National Association of Social Workers (NASW), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH) and Bureau of Navy Medicine and Surgery (BUMED).

In addition to his Master of Social Work (MSW) degree from San Diego State University (2012), Zander has earned a BA in Speech (Interpersonal Communication) from Metropolitan State College of Denver (1999; honored in 2011 as an Alumni of the Year and in 2016 as a Distinguished Alumnus), a Master of Science (MS) in Conflict Analysis and Resolution from Nova Southeastern University (2003), and a Master of Theological Studies (MTS) from Pacific School of Religion (2004).

In his free time, Zander enjoys writing and editing nonfiction publications, mentoring social work students, supervising unlicensed social workers, discovering new places for brunch and spending time with his family.

To learn more about Zander please visit his website at www.zanderkeig.net.
C. Nicole VanSant is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker who has been involved in & working with the LGBTQ+ community for over 18 years, 8 of which have been at the Atlanta VA. She is one of the Co-Directors of the LGBT Veteran Care Coordinator Program under the Veterans Affairs LGBT Health Program. She also sits on the National Veteran’s Affairs Social Work Best Practices Committee.
Major (Ret.) Evan Young is a retired Army officer. A native of Little Rock, Arkansas, he is a graduate of Northwestern State University of Louisiana with a bachelor's degree in English. He also earned a master's degree in management information systems from Nova Southeastern University and has a graduate business certificate from the University of Michigan-Flint. Major Young is the former President of the Board of Directors for the Arkansas Transgender Equality Coalition (ArTEC), http://www.artranscoalition.org and is part of committees in the active duty transgender group, SPART*A.

After several years of enlisted service in the signal corps at Army Posts in Illeshiem, Germany, Fort Story, Virginia, and Fort Polk, Louisiana, Major Young received his commission from the U.S. Army in 1998 through a scholarship in the Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps Green-to-Gold program. Immediately following his commission, he was selected to serve as the Gold Bar Recruiter at his university. Following officer basic, he held positions at the 369th Adjutant General Battalion as a company executive officer and at the Adjutant General School as a special project officer, planning and orchestrating the annual Adjutant General Corps Personnel Leader’s Meeting. Major Young was one of five officers in the Adjutant General Corp to be selected for the National Guard Reform Initiative. In addition to his duties as an Adjutant General officer, Major Young was also a four-year member of the All Army Softball team.

Major Young is a graduate of the Broadcast Management Course, Public Affairs Officer Qualification Course, Adjutant General Captain’s Career Course, and Adjutant General Officer Basic Course. Major Young was a member of the commandant’s list while attending the Adjutant General Corp Officer Basic Course. His awards and decorations include the National Defense Service Medal (2), Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal (3 awards), Alaska Community Service Medal.

Major Young spends his time as a full time dad and works from home developing web sites and dedicates countless hours in support of the Transgender American Veterans Association. He lives with twin daughters, Jordan Rylie and Logan Kiana, in Northwest Arkansas.
Zander Keig, a proud Veteran of the U.S. Coast Guard, is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) and Board-Certified Diplomate in Clinical Social Work (BCD) providing empirically supported culturally and linguistically appropriate patient centered trauma informed care.

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In his free time, Zander enjoys writing and editing nonfiction publications, mentoring social work students, supervising unlicensed social workers, discovering new places for brunch and spending time with his family.

To learn more about Zander please visit his website at www.zanderkeig.net.
Jennifer Marie Long is currently, Director of Agency Services for NJ Motor Vehicle Commission also as financial service professional with Integrated Financial Concepts. She holds the office of Post Commander for her local Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 1302, VFW District 3 Commander (Hudson County). National Association of Financial Advisors (NAIFA) as the Executive Board Chairwoman of Government Relations and Political Action State Committee. Selected by Governor Murphy, as Co-Chair, for Veterans and Military Affairs Transition Team.

In 2009, after completing a military deployment in Iraq, she began her transition by starting hormone replacement therapy (HRT). In 2010, with another deployment, this time to Afghanistan, she delayed her legal portion of transition. Upon her return in July 2011, was presented with the Bronze Star Medal and French National Defense Medal for her actions in Afghanistan and retired after 30 years of military service at the rank of Sergeant Major (SGM). She returned to Fairleigh Dickinson University to complete her degree in finance and finalize the legal portion of her transition.

During May 2012, she legally became Jennifer Marie Long. Robert Wood Johnson University, serving as a Board member on the committee to advance transgender education, and care. In 2015, she won a case against the Department of the Army, represented by the ACLU of NJ, allowing her to change the name on the DD214 record of military service. This landmark decision will help pave the way for other former transgender service members. ACLU of NJ recipient of the Torch Bearer award for activism in 2016.
Sgt. First Class Denny Meyer, the son of WWII Holocaust refugees, was reared bilingually in the mid-1940s postwar immigrant refugee community on New York City’s Upper West Side. His mother, he notes with pride, arrived at Ellis Island as an illegal alien fleeing Nazi persecution. She taught him that, “there is nothing more precious than American Freedom.”

He has been an activist for over 50 years, starting with his first march with the NAACP at the age of 13 in 1960, working for civil rights, women’s rights, and gay rights and transgender rights for our military service members and veterans.

In 1968 he volunteered, “To pay my country back for my family’s freedom.” He served for ten years in two services; in the Navy aboard an aircraft carrier, in a Huey helicopter squadron HQ, at NATO US headquarters; and in specialized Army Reserve units; and served as an inter-agency liaison and negotiator.

Sgt. Denny has spoken at universities and colleges including Brown, Columbia, Harvard, Hofstra, and Lehman (CUNY) among other venues; combining history, humor, pathos, and anger to tell his story.

In addition to serving as TAVA’s Public Affairs Officer, Veteran Affairs Officer, and Congressional Liaison, he is the national Public Affairs and Veterans Affairs officer of AVER and edits [http://www.GayMilitarySignal.com](http://www.GayMilitarySignal.com).
Yvonne Cook-Riley, Board Member at Large

Yvonne Cook-Riley is truly a pioneer of the Transgender movement. She worked with advocacy organizations in the early 1990s to incorporate the word “transgender” and its associated concepts, and that effort took off into the “transgender movement” that we see today.

She became involved with others in what we would now call the transgender community in 1981 and started organizing support groups in 1983. In 1985, Yvonne became active with the International Foundation for Gender Education (IFGE) and served that organization in numerous capacities, including Director of Operations, Treasurer, and a Member of their Board of Directors. She appeared on dozens of television talk shows, over 200 talk radio shows in the late 1980’s and 90’s and made eight appearances on behalf of IFGE at the American Psychiatric Association’s national conferences. Yvonne helped in the establishment of other conferences in the U.S., such as Southern Comfort, Texas Tea Party, California Dreaming, and Be All. Also, she has been involved in numerous other trans-related organizations, including Blue Ridge Pride, Kindred Spirits, and Transgender American Veterans Association (TAVA).

Yvonne Cook-Riley’s dedication to the Transgender movement has been recognized many times, including the Outreach Institute’s “Outreach Medal” in 1991, the IFGE’s “Trinity Award,” also in 1991, and the IFGE Virginia Prince lifetime service award in 1995.
Major (Ret.) Nella Ludlow is a retired Air Force officer. She is a lifelong resident in the Seattle Washington area, and currently a full Professor of Computer Science at Washington State University (WSU). More information about her position in academia is at https://school.eecs.wsu.edu/people/faculty/nella-ludlow/.

She is co-chair of WSU’s Gender Inclusive and Trans* Support Working Group, a board member of WSU’s President’s Commission on Gender Identity / Expression and Sexual Orientation (GIESO). She is also supporting member of National Center for Transgender Equality (NCTE), Seattle’s Gender Justice League, and the National Human Rights Campaign (HRC).

She received a bachelor’s in mathematics and physical sciences from Washington State University, master’s in computer science from Wright State University in Ohio, a PhD in artificial intelligence from University of Edinburgh in Scotland, and Post-Doctoral studies at University of Cambridge in England.

Major Ludlow honorably retired from the Air Force after sixteen years of active duty, via the early retirement program which was offered in the late 1990s. She served as a pilot, intelligence officer, a research scientist, and as a professor in the Computer Science Department at the Naval Postgraduate School. At the Air Force Research Lab, she served as Technical Director for Artificial Intelligence, and the Director for Advanced Medical Computing. She also served as the youngest member of the US-Russia Force Reduction Talks making several trips to Russia and Eastern Europe. She retired as the Technical Director for the USAF’s Radar Evaluation Squadron working for Air Combat Command.

After retirement from the military, she was Chief Technology Officer of a Microsoft-funded startup company, and later Chief Executive Officer of three successful tech companies, one of which she took public, and rang the opening bell at the stock market. While as CEO she won three fastest growing private company awards and four fastest growing public company awards and has ten patents awarded or applied for/pending.

She holds an Extra Class amateur radio license, and enjoys ham radio, camping, and hiking. She is also an artist whose paintings focus on modern-day heroes of the social justice movement.
### Kimberly Moore, Board Member at Large

Major (Ret.) Kimberly Morris is a 20-year Marine veteran and is an active member in her local transgender community. She enlisted in 1994 as a Reservist in the Marine Corps out of college and received her commission in 1995 through the OCC program. Trained as a Communications Officer she has served in all components of the Marine Corps and has successfully completed tours in Recruiting, I&I, and Acquisitions. She led a Communication Company in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. She holds a Master's in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix. Her awards include three Meritorious Service Medals, the Joint Commendation Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

### Alice Ashton, Board Member at Large

Alice Ashton retires from the United States Navy on June 30, 2020 and is currently in the Skillbridge program to start a new profession in journalism with the Ask & Tell Project. She has a history of leadership and task management through the military and volunteer work. Alice served 6 years in the Air Force as a Korean Linguist and 14 years in the Navy as an Arabic Linguist. She eventually came to accept that she was transgender and came out while serving, being one of only about 1,400 transgender service members serving openly under the current regulations. She worked to mentor younger transgender service members on how to navigate the military healthcare and administrative systems, co-founded a local transgender support group, and aided 15 service members in getting their diagnoses before the new ban took effect. In journalism, she hopes to write on social justice issues for all marginalized groups, especially in areas that she has personal knowledge.
Ann Murdoch, Board Member at Large

Ann Murdoch served in the United States Army from 1988 to 2011. She enlisted as a journalist in 1988 and became the Public Affairs Officer for Fort Indiantown Gap, PA. Commissioned in 1992, she served as a rifle platoon leader and executive officer in the 2nd Infantry Division at Camp Hovey, Korea, and as instructor/doctrine writer and in a variety of battalion staff positions at the Infantry School. She commanded Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Special Operations Support Command (Airborne) then the 129h Adjutant General Company (Postal) at Fort Bragg, NC. In 2001, she became the Adjutant General (chief personnel officer) for the Defense Foreign Language Institute/Foreign Language Center and Presidio of Monterey, CA and took a subsequent tour as the Adjutant (chief personnel officer) for 1st Recruiting Brigade at Fort Meade, MD. Following completion of the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, KS, she was assigned as the Chief of Planning and Deputy G1 (deputy chief personnel officer) for the 10th Infantry Division (Mountain) at Fort Drum, NY and was Deputy J1 for Combined Joint Task Force-76 at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan. She completed her military career as the Chief of Officer Accession Policy on the Army staff at the Pentagon.

She is currently establishing the Enterprise Risk Management program in the Veterans Benefits Administration. She was the Project Manager for implementation of the Appeals Modernization Act of 2018 and was a strategic planner in the Office of Strategic Planning.

She is a member of the Equality Virginia Transgender Advocacy Speakers Bureau and is a past board member of the Transgender Educational Association. As a professional speaker, she has provided keynotes for the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Federal Trade Commission, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of the Interior, Defense Threat Reduction Agency, and the US Military Academy, among others.

She is a graduate of the US Army Command and General Staff College and holds a Master of Business Administration. She earned the Project Management Institute Project Management Professional certification in 2012, and the George Washington University certification in Federal Enterprise Risk Management. She is affiliated with the National Speakers Association and is a member of Toastmasters International. Her awards include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Award, Meritorious Service Award, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Parachutist's Badge, and the German Parachutist's Badge.

She enjoys sailing, bicycling and is a private pilot. She lives in Springfield, VA with her family.
Landon Marchant is a veteran of the United States Air Force, former trade union apprentice, community college student, Point Foundation scholar, and senior at Williams College (MA) where they are double majoring in Philosophy and Sociology with a concentration in Science and Technology Studies. After graduation they plan to join ZX Ventures, Anheuser-Busch InBev’s corporate venture capital and innovation team based out of New York City.

From 2009 to 2011 Landon served as an Aircraft Metals Technician. During this time, they were stationed at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, and recognized for intervening in two suicide attempts. Landon experienced underemployment, housing instability and food insecurity after the military, a cycle that was interrupted by an emergency scholarship from the American Legion. This instability led them to apply for, and attend, Veterans in Piping – a United Association skilled trades program for veterans. Upon completion Landon worked as a union plumbing apprentice at Plumber’s Local 5 in the Washington DC metro area from 2012 to 2015. In 2015, Landon enrolled in Northern Virginia Community College and began working at a digital marketing and reputation management firm.

Upon arriving in D.C., Landon became increasingly involved in transgender military advocacy in order to help active duty troops retain their careers, and assist other veterans in avoiding underemployment, housing instability, and food insecurity. A founding member of the active duty transgender group, Service Members, Partners, Allies for Respect and Tolerance for All (SPART*A), Landon has held a variety of leadership roles since its inception in 2013. Dedicated to helping veterans avoid post-military instability, Landon has worked to develop a veteran resource database covering everything from emergency assistance to employment and education. Their work also extends into public health— in 2018 Landon was awarded the Sentinels Summer Research Fellowship and a grant from the Elton John Aids Foundation, which allowed them to build the first known rural peer-to-peer needle exchange in Massachusetts.

Currently, Landon works to improve veteran outcomes through advocacy, mentorship, guest speaking, lecturing, and writing. They are a frequent speaker at events, have interviewed with MSNBC, been published in the Advocate and Washington Post, and are pending publication in the 2nd edition of Trans Bodies Trans Selves. They are the only undergraduate member of the Transgender Military Service Lab, affiliated with the University of Louisville’s counseling psychology program.
For the past several years, Jordan has been heavily involved in advocacy efforts for the trans community generally, and he has spoken publicly about trans military issues whenever presented with the opportunity. He first became involved with SPARTA in 2014 when he was serving in the Air Force, but since transferring to the IRR in 2015, his days of active military service are now becoming more and more distant from his current civilian life. He is excited for this opportunity to work with TAVA because involvement with this organization will allow him to continue his military-related trans advocacy in the veteran spaces that better fit the stage of life he is in now.

Jordan believes that his professional and personal credentials make him a valuable member of the TAVA board. He has significant nonprofit experience through his pro bono work with the Colorado Name Change Project and through his day job at the American Constitution Society, and he has experience managing social media and communications strategies for businesses and non-profit organizations too.