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Equal Employment Opportunity Monthly Bulletin
“Promoting EEO, Diversity, and Education”



June 2024

Pride Month

Celebrating and recognizing the diversity of both civilian employees and Service Members across the Department of Defense (DoD); June is LGBTQ+ Pride Month. It is observed in June to commemorate the riots that occurred in June 1969 at the Stonewall Inn in Manhattan, New York. The Stonewall Riots began on June 28, 1969, when police raided the Stonewall Inn, a gay club located in Greenwich Village in New York City. The event, known as the Stonewall Riots, became the catalyst for the gay rights movement in the United States and around the world to achieve equal justice and opportunities.

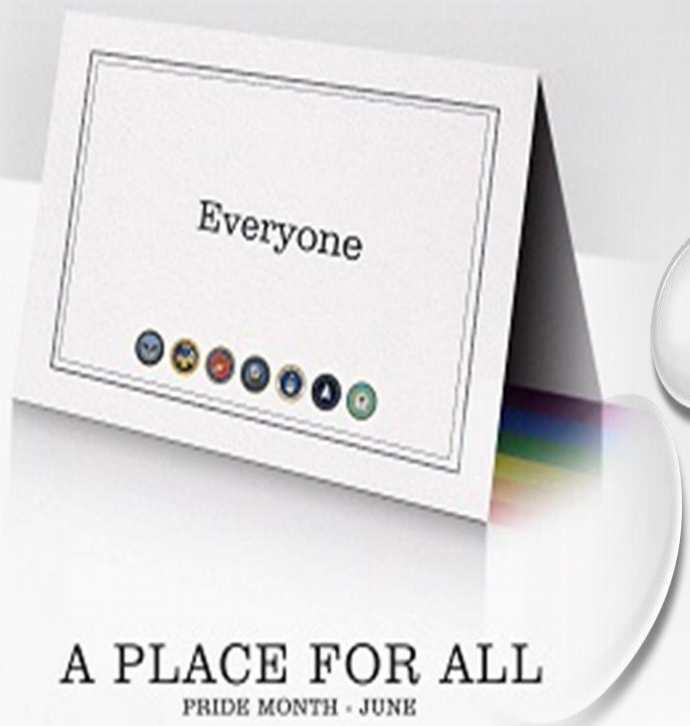
The DoD is dedicated to establishing an environment that optimizes individual talents, boosts morale, and improve military effectiveness. Diversity encompasses more than just race, gender, and ethnicity; it also includes a variety of thoughts, abilities, backgrounds, language, cultures, and skills.

During Pride Month, the DoD celebrates the equality and rights of LGBTQ+ individuals, commits to diversity and inclusion across the Armed Forces, and takes pride in its civilians and Service Members.

Whether officer, enlisted, civilian employee, or family member, their inclusion gives DoD components better aptitude and opportunity.

PRIDE

IN ALL WHO SERVE



A PLACE FOR ALL
PRIDE MONTH - JUNE

Chief Master Sgt. Jeremiah Grisham

Chief Master Sgt. Jeremiah Grisham, to his knowledge, is the only openly gay command chief in the U.S. Air Force. Grisham serves as the senior enlisted leader and principal advisor to the commander of the 521st Air Mobility Operations Wing at the Ramstein Air Base in Germany. After entering the Air Force in 1998, he graduated from the Naval School Explosive Ordnance Disposal, where he first started coming out to his tight-knit group of peers. Since then, he reflects that he never felt that his career was hindered. Chief Master Sgt. Jeremiah Grisham advocates for the LGBTQI+ community, emphasizing that change has occurred during his time in the military and that progress can continue. He actively supports Ramstein's planning committee's goal to "educate and celebrate" through Pride events, special observances, and promoting understanding of LGBTQI+ issues. Grisham encourages all airmen to embrace who they are, even though "for some people that's a taller mountain."



Juneteenth

President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, announcing, "that all persons held as slaves" within the rebellious areas "are, and henceforward shall be free." On June 19, 1865, General Gordon Granger announced General Order No. 3, which stated: "The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free..."

In 2021, Juneteenth National Independence Day was declared a federal holiday, and a Presidential Proclamation was issued on June 18, 2021. Juneteenth honors the end to slavery in the United States and is considered the longest-running African American holiday. Most importantly, it represents victory over the institution of slavery and the beginning of the fulfillment of America's promise of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for African Americans.

LGBTQI+ JUNETEENTH (external links)

[Pride Month events in South Carolina 2024 | wltx.com](https://www.wltx.com)

[The Historical Legacy of Juneteenth | National Museum of African American History and Culture \(si.edu\)](https://si.edu)

[About | Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Pride Month | Library of Congress \(loc.gov\)](https://loc.gov)

[Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity \(SOGI\) Discrimination | U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission \(eeoc.gov\)](https://eeoc.gov)

[Family Friendly Event | Juneteenth Freedom Fest | Columbia](#)

Anti-Harassment No Fear Training FY(24)

The annual No FEAR and Anti-Harassment training has changed for fiscal year 2024. Training is no longer available online and must be conducted in person. There are two modules, one for supervisors and one for non-supervisors. All employees and supervisors of civilian employees to include active-duty Soldiers who supervise civilian employees are required to attend the training. The training will be offered every quarter in the Fort Jackson theater on 7 December; 21 March; 20 June and 19 September. Non-supervisor training will occur in the morning session (1030) and supervisor training will occur in the afternoon session (1530). For more information contact Mr. Timothy Gladders at timothy.b.gladders.civ@army.mil.