

To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
From: POLITICO
Sent: Thur 7/27/2017 3:33:29 PM
Subject: BREAKING NEWS: Joint Chiefs to troops: 'No modification' to transgender policy

There will be "no modifications" to the military's transgender policy as a result of President Donald Trump's tweets, the chairman of the joint chiefs said in a message to top military officers on Thursday.

Marine Gen. Joe Dunford wrote in the message to the chiefs of the services and senior enlisted leaders that the military will continue to "treat all of our personnel with respect."

"I know there are questions about yesterday's announcement on the transgender policy by the President," Dunford wrote in the message, a copy of which was provided to POLITICO. "There will be no modifications to the current policy until the President's direction has been received by the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary has issued implementation guidance."

"In the meantime, we will continue to treat all of our personnel with respect. As importantly, given the current fight and the challenges we face, we will all remain focused on accomplishing our assigned missions," he continued.

The president said Wednesday in a series of three tweets that transgender troops would no longer be allowed to serve in any capacity, sparking a number of questions about what that means for the thousands currently in uniform and whether it constitutes an official policy change.

Asked about an implementation plan, the Defense Department on Wednesday directed all questions to the White House.

The tweets sparked immediate blow back from lawmakers in both parties and advocacy groups who threatened legal action.

Read more: <http://www.politico.com/story/2017/07/27/trump-transgender-military-ban-no-modification-241029>

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