

Theta Nu Xi

Multicultural Sorority, Inc.

For Immediate Release January 25, 2019

STATEMENT: Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc. Speaks Out Against Transgender Military Ban

CHAPEL HILL, NC - Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc. denounces the Supreme Court's 5-4 vote on Tuesday, January 22, to lift two of three remaining injunctions on cases blocking the current administration's proposed policy to restrict transgender people from serving in the military. The justices also declined to review the legality of the underlying cases, sending them back to the lower courts to be resolved by the federal courts of appeals. This comes just a few years after the Obama administration's 2016 decision to open the military to transgender service members. Now, those currently serving are unsure if their careers are over, those who have served in the past are unsure of their benefits, and those who hope to join don't know how far they will be able to go, if at all.

"Theta Nu Xi condemns any acts meant to exclude anyone on the basis of their sex or gender from military service. It is an unconscionable act of government-sanctioned discrimination towards those who have and are willing to put their lives on the line to defend our country," says Theta Nu Xi's National President, Amanda Pohl. "The military is a meritocracy and this is an appalling step backwards that is meant to shame those who wish to honor their country by serving. Those who are ready and able to do so should be welcomed and honored."

Hope remains with one nationwide injunction still blocking the ban due to the American Civil Liberties Union <u>case</u> filed in Maryland, but the lifting of these two is demoralizing. As policies are made on the basis of discrimination with information that is deemed erroneous, we will continue to speak up for acceptance and human rights.

For more information or to speak to a representative of Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc., please contact Amanda Pohl at <u>national.president@thetanuxi.org</u> or Aubrianna Kress at <u>director.communications@thetanuxi.org</u>.

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Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc. was founded on April 11, 1997, at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, with a mission to promote leadership, multiculturalism, and self improvement through academic excellence, involvement in and service to the campus and community, as well as being living examples of sisterhood across different races, cultures, religions, backgrounds, and lifestyles. To learn more about Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc., visit <u>www.thetanuxi.org</u>.