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Reserve Voice Online | February 2024

# ROA Headlines



**Meet ROA life member 2nd Lt. Allison Sturgeon, U.S. Marine Corps**

Sturgeon graduated summa cum laude in April of 2022.

[Learn more >>>](#)



**Call to Action: ROAs 118th Policy Portfolio hits Capitol Hill**

Join us in educating Congress on ROA's policy priorities.

[Learn more >>>](#)



**The 80th Training Command welcomes its first female commander**

Congratulations Brig. Gen. Patricia Wallace

[Learn more >>>](#)





## Virtual ROA Academy Toolkit Available

Did you miss the January virtual ROA Academy? We have your back. [Click here](#) for a full toolkit and recording of the call. *Note: This content is for members only. [Join ROA today](#) for access.*



# Military Family

**Upwards**

### Need childcare? We've got you.

Upwards covers childcare for the Army Reserve & National Guard!

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Use the QR code to get started.
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We'll help you find a provider your children will love while you focus on serving our country.

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## Free Childcare Pilot Program for

### MEET YOUR FUTURE EMPLOYER

Thursday, February 22, 2024  
11 am - 2 pm (ET)

#### Military-Friendly Virtual Job Fair

Don't miss this opportunity to meet top employers who are looking for great candidates at the Military-Friendly Virtual Job Fair sponsored by Corporate Gray. Registered companies and government agencies include Leidos, SAIC, LMI, Los Alamos National Laboratory, U.S. Postal Service, Workday, Caterpillar dealers, Department of Veterans Affairs, and more.

NOTE: This event is especially for transitioning military members, veterans, and military spouses. Most participating employers require U.S. citizenship, and many require cleared (or clearable) candidates.

<https://www.ecareerfairs.com/JobSeeker/ViewEventLobby.asp?EventID=9461>

Sponsored by Corporate Gray, publisher of "The Military-to-Civilian Transition Guide" and "Social Media and Your Job Search." The Department of Defense and the Service Branches do not endorse any company, sponsor, or their products or services.

[Click here to register.](#)

## Register now for February's Virtual

## Legislative Update



February 13, 2024

To the members of our Minute Man Movement:

To those celebrating, I wish you an early Happy Valentines Day! My valentine this year is the legislative process.

Since I last wrote to you, there has been much activity in the national defense space and on ROA's advocacy front.

But before reading more, I ask you take a moment of silence for the three U.S. Army Reserve soldiers killed serving the nation on Jan. 28 at a U.S. military base in Jordan.

Read ROA's official statement on the tragedy [here](#).

The last month has produced many memorable moments. Having worked in the defense and veterans' policy arena for nearly five years, I believe there's something to be said for the halls and walls of the Hill still instilling a powerful feeling of potential for all that can be achieved.

Perhaps this is a testament to Congress' expediency (or lack thereof). Or perhaps it's because my advocacy journey began in the heat of COVID.

Regardless, without wavering, I can say: there's *nothing* like being an advocate.

As part of my New Years reflection, I thought deeply about how ROA national can bring the Hill and its aura into your living rooms; how ROA national can instill in you that powerful feeling of potential.

Make no mistake: there is no replacement for being here in-person. Nonetheless, I feel that such an endeavor is worth pursuing.

The first step of this process was to make updates to the advocacy portions of our website. At the Jan. 25 ROA Academy, I presented many of these changes.

For those unable to attend, I encourage you to visit each Advocacy subtab on roa.org.

All that is left to refresh is the Defense Fellow webpage (to reflect the full-scale remodeling of our legislative internship program). I expect such changes to occur no later than mid-March.

The second step was to update our grassroots and grasstops tools, now referred to as "government affairs readiness resources."

These readiness resources are ready for use and include a two-pager of ROA's policy portfolio, seven position papers, two Interactive Position Papers, and draft pieces of legislation for

The Reserve Organization of America: Relentlessly Representing Readiness Since 1923.

## February's Up to the Minute Man Update

Learn what ROA's Director of Legislation and staff members have been doing on Capitol Hill.

[Download full report >>>](#)



## Van Orden Introduces the MGIB-SR Tuition Fairness Act

Today, Congressman Derrick Van Orden (WI-03) was joined by Congressman Morgan McGarvey (KY-03) in introducing the *Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserves (MGIB-SR) Tuition Fairness Act*.

[Download full report >>>](#)



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## Law Center

### Clean, quick reference to Law Review subject index

Is the Law Review a bit overwhelming to navigate? We are here to help! [Get the guide >>>](#)

Legal analysis on the issues impacting your life in and out of uniform. Visit [ROA's Law Center](#) to access more than 2,000 law reviews focused solely on our nation's National Guard and Reserve components.

## *The January Law Reviews are linked below:*

- **No. 24014** - DOJ Sues the State of Nevada Again for Flouting USERRA
- **No. 24013** - Recent USERRA Decision in the Northern District of Illinois.
- **No. 24012** - The Returning Service Member Is Entitled to Reinstatement in the Job She Would Have Attained if She Had Remained Continuously Employed, Not Necessarily the Job She Left
- **No. 24011** - You Are Entitled to Civilian Pension Credit for your Military Service Time Only if you Meet All Five USERRA Conditions, Including the Five-year Limit
- **No. 24010** - Courts Should Liberally Construe Statutes for Service Members and Veterans
- **No. 24009** - The Supreme Court Has Upheld the Constitutionality of Special Tax Benefits for Veterans' Organizations like ROA



### **Honoring our fallen.**

During January 2024, ROA was notified of 68 of our ROA comrades passing from our ranks. On behalf of our membership, we thank these brave men and women for their many years of service and wish their families peace. [Click here for the full list of names.](#)



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