



Ron Scott <oldgadfly@gmail.com>

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## Submission of Document for DACODAI members

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To: osd.mc-alex.ousd-p-r.mbx.dacodai@mail.mil

Mon, Nov 27, 2023 at 4:15 PM

To: DACODAI Chairman, Members, and Staff, c/o Ms. Shirley Raguindin

From: Elaine Donnelly, President, Center for Military Readiness

Re: Submission of Document for the Record

Date: November 27, 2023

The Center for Military Readiness is an independent public policy organization, founded in 1993, which reports on and analyzes military/social issues. Pursuant to your notice of a meeting of members of the Defense Advisory Committee on Diversity & Inclusion (DACODAI) in Arlington, VA, on December 14-15, I hereby request that this commentary by journalist and opinion leader Bari Weiss be circulated among DACODAI members and staff and be included in the official record of this meeting.

- The Free Press: [Bari Weiss: End DEI](#)

I do not know Ms. Weiss personally, but I hope that your committee will consider her insight on the subject of DEI. She notes that the three words “diversity, equity, and inclusion” usually represent “*noble causes*,” and continues:

*“But in reality these words are now metaphors for an ideological movement bent on recategorizing every American not as an individual, but as an avatar of an identity group, his or her behavior prejudged accordingly setting all of us up in a kind of zero-sum game.” Consequences of this divisive ideology are much worse in the military, where non-discrimination and respect for meritocracy should be paramount values.”*

I agree with Ms. Weiss -- “Diversity” used to be a positive word describing the beneficial results of non-discrimination and recognition of individual merit. President Harry Truman’s 1948 [Executive](#)

[Order](#) ended racial segregation, but its primary purpose was not equal opportunity; it was military necessity in the Korean War era. The armed forces have aspired to uphold principles of non-discrimination and recognition of individual merit, but in 2011 the Department of Defense began shifting away from those principles and moving toward group rights and “equity,” which are not the same as “equality” or “equal opportunity.”

According to news reports, the Pentagon is asking for another [\\$114,000 million](#) for its DEIA programs, up from \$68 million in FY 2022 and \$86.5 million in FY 2023. This at a time when auditors found that half of the Department of Defense’s claimed assets could not be accounted for. Congress and the general public should know precisely what benefits have ensued from these expenditures, in terms of military readiness, not social goals. We should also know why even more defense funds should be directed to DEIA activities.

The DACODAI membership, staffing, and meeting procedures mirror the culture of the DACOWITS, of which I was a member, 1984-86. If the committee provides updates on its meetings and proceedings, please add me to the list of recipients.

Sincerely,

Elaine Donnelly

President, Center for Military Readiness

**Elaine Donnelly**

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ADDRESSES: The in-person meeting will be held at the Association of the United States Army (AUSA) Conference and Event Center, [2425 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22201](#). In addition, the meeting will be held via videoconference. Participant access information will be provided after registering.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Designated Federal Officer (DFO), Ms. Shirley Raguindin, (571) 645-[redacted](voice), osd.mc-alex.ousd-p-r.mbx.[redacted]@[mail.mil](mailto:osd.mc-alex.ousd-p-r.mbx.[redacted]@mail.mil) (email). Additional information is also available at the DACODAI website:

<https://www.dhra.mil/DACODAI.SUPPLEMENTARY> INFORMATION: This meeting is being held under the provisions of chapter 10 of title 5, United States Code (U.S.C.) (commonly known as the ``Federal Advisory Committee Act" or ``FACA"), 5 U.S.C. 552b (commonly known as the ``Government in the Sunshine Act"), and 41 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 102-3.140 and 102-3.150.

Availability of Materials for the Meeting: Additional information, including the agenda or any updates to the agenda, is available on the DACODAI website: <https://www.dhra.mil/DACODAI/>. Materials presented in the meeting may also be obtained on the DACODAI website. Purpose of the Meeting: ***The purpose of the meeting is for the DACODAI to receive briefings and have discussions on topics related to racial/ethnic diversity, inclusion, and equal opportunity within the Armed Forces of the United States.*** In addition, the committee members will vote on the 2023 DACODAI proposed recommendations for the Secretary of Defense.



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