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**ATTRIBUTION:** San Diego County Bar Association

### **SDCBA Public Statement Regarding Transgender Military Service Members**

SAN DIEGO, July 28, 2017 – San Diego is a proud military town with one of the highest concentrations of service personnel in the country at over 100,000 individuals. We respect, honor and support every single service member who has dedicated their life to our nation. President Donald Trump recently commented via Twitter that transgender troops would not be allowed to serve in any capacity in the armed forces. Whether his statement has or will become the policy of the United States military is still unclear. Regardless, the San Diego County Bar Association (SDCBA) is dedicated to the constitutional principle of equal protection under the law for all. As such, the SDCBA denounces any government action or rhetoric that is discriminatory or prejudicial, or denies equal rights for all. Marginalizing transgender individuals currently serving or who want to serve our country is not only a step backwards, but an affront to all who have worked, sacrificed or given their lives to make America a country built on the principles of equality, inclusion and diversity.

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