

Welcome to the National Guard in Memphis!

Department of War name set in bronze at Pentagon entrances to replace name of Department of Defense

By C. Todd Lopez
Department of War (DOW)

At the Pentagon on November 13, 2025, , facilities personnel took down outdated bronze plaques at two of the building's entrances and replaced them with recently minted plaques bearing the new name of the federal agency that leads America's fighting force: "Department of War."

One of those new plaques was put up at the River Entrance, which faces the Potomac River and serves as the Pentagon's grand entrance. It's where Secretary of War Pete Hegseth greets counterparts from partner and allied nations, as well as other dignitaries and distinguished visitors.

The Mall Entrance, which faces north toward the National Mall in Washington, also got a new sign. Outside that entrance are the Pentagon's helicopter landing pads.

"We wanted to replace because we want everybody who comes through this door to know that we are deadly serious about the name change of this organization," Hegseth said.

In early September, President Donald J. Trump signed an executive order changing the name of the Defense Department back to the War Department — a name the department held for more than 150 years, from 1789 to 1947.

Construction on the Pentagon began in 1941 and was completed in 1943. When the build-



Secretary of War Pete Hegseth helps to put up bronze plaque that designates the Department of Defense is now the Department of War. (Photo/Credit: Dept. of War)

ing opened that year, it housed the Department of War. In fact, the dedication stone on the Pentagon — located outside the Mall Entrance — has "War Department" engraved at the top, along with the names of Franklin D. Roosevelt, who was president at the time, and Henry L. Stimson, who served as Secretary of War from 1940 to 1945.

Now, the Pentagon again houses the War Department. "We love everything that the Department of Defense represented," Hegseth said. "But this is a new era of the Department of War that is focused on winning wars ... and making sure that we

know exactly what the mission is and that the troops are sent there to succeed and win."

The name "Department of War," Hegseth said, harkens back to America's founding. "[We are] reestablishing back to Henry Knox and George Washington and the founding of our nation — to fight and win our nation's wars if called upon," he said. "And of course, the whole goal is to deter wars in the first place ... to establish peace." The new name also reflects a new ethos for the department, Hegseth said, after he personally fastened the last screw on the new River Entrance plaque.

"We are rebuilding it; we are reestablishing deterrence — it's based on America first, peace through strength and common sense," he said. "And now everybody that enters this building, whether it's generals or civilians or foreign leaders, is going to see: this is not just on paper. This is not just a title. This is exactly who we are."

The new bronze plaques are each roughly 30 by 20 inches and weigh about 60 pounds. The old plaques, which say "Department of Defense," had been on the building for more than 70 years, Hegseth said.

A Report from Memphis Safe Task Force

There's No Escaping Justice, Memphis Safe Task Force Ends Fugitives' Run from Accountability

Memphis, Tennessee, November 18, 2025 – The Memphis Safe Task Force announces the arrests of three individuals on outstanding state warrants: Tenesha Taylor, 38 — warrant for Threat of Mass Violence on School Property Kelly Young, 52 — warrant for Conspiracy, Unlawful Possession of Controlled Substance with Intent to Manufacture/Deliver/Sell and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia Treyvon Norwood, 24 — warrant for Failure to Appear, Domestic Assault On November 17, 2025, at approximately 12:00 p.m., Task Force members conducted an arrest operation at a residence in the area of Cottonwood Road in Memphis. Three subjects at the residence were found to possess outstanding warrants.

During the operation, Task Force members observed individuals fleeing toward the rear of the property. One male subject scaled a wooden privacy fence into a neighboring backyard and was quickly apprehended. He was later identified as Kelly Young. Shortly thereafter, Tenesha Taylor was observed jumping over the same fence directly behind Young. Taylor sustained minor injuries during her attempt to flee. She was arrested and transported to a local area hospital for medical treatment related to her injuries. Treyvon Norwood was also arrested in the backyard of the residence before he was able to flee. A handgun was located near the fence where Young and Taylor entered the neighboring yard. At the time of Taylor's arrest, she also possessed a small amount of marijuana and suspected cocaine. This operation reflects the Memphis Safe Task Force's commitment to coordinated enforcement efforts and its mission to identify, apprehend, and hold accountable those who pose a threat to public safety.

Justice Breaches the Door, Memphis Safe Task Force K-9 Sniffs Out Wanted Sex Offender

Memphis, Tennessee, November 17, 2025 – The Memphis Safe Task Force announces the arrest of Lawrence Williams, 25, on a warrant for petition to revoke a suspended sentence for Criminal Attempt Especially Aggravated Sexual Exploitation of a Minor.

Through an interagency collaborative effort, investigators learned the whereabouts of Williams, leading Task Force members to the area of Knotty Oaks Drive in Memphis. When Williams refused to open his door, Task Force members forced entry, and their K9 partner Marko located the suspect hiding in a back bedroom inside the residence. Williams was placed into custody and transported to a local hospital for medical treatment for injuries sustained during the arrest.

According to the Tennessee Sex Offender Registry (SORB), last updated on September 24 of this year, Williams has criminal history involving sex offenses dating back to 2022.

The Memphis Safe Task Force will leave no stone unturned in its quest to make Memphis communities safe. When there is a fence, we will go over it. When there is a door, we will go through it. When there is resistance, we will overcome it. Our commitment is unwavering, offenders who threaten Memphis neighborhoods will be found, apprehended, and brought to justice. Through relentless pursuit and coordinated action, the Task Force stands as a shield for Memphis families and a force for accountability. Since its inception, the Memphis Safe Task Force has made 1,196 warrant arrests in addition to 68 arrests on charges of various sex offenses. Each operation reflects a determined strategy to dismantle crime, safeguard neighborhoods, and reinforce the Task Force's role as a trusted protector of Memphis families.

Memphis Rifle team rolls past Army setting another great record-breaking performance

MEMPHIS, Tenn., November 15, 2025 – No. 6 Memphis Rifle closed its fall schedule in emphatic fashion Saturday afternoon, taking down No. 15 Army, 4,732 - 4,647, while setting yet another smallbore program record and tying the school's all-time aggregate mark.

The Tigers posted a 2,349 in smallbore - surpassing the previous mark for the third time this season - then followed with a 2,383 in air rifle to equal the program's 4,732 aggregate best. Memphis set the previous records in smallbore and aggregate on October 12 against No. 13 Akron.

Memphis swept the top four spots in the individual standings, led by Emmet Bodrogi's dominant performance. Bodrogi won the match with a season-high

1,187 aggregate (591 SB / 596 AR), posting 92 centers. He has placed top-two in each of the last four matches, including three individual titles.

Gabriela Zych finished close behind in second with an 1,185 (588 SB / 597 AR), including a match-best 597 in air rifle. Katrina Demerle took third at 1,184, while Kenlee Ewton placed fourth with a 1,172.

"We are super happy with how we wrapped up our semester today, shooting another program record in smallbore and tying the aggregate record we shot earlier in the semester," said head coach Morgan Wilson. "We've been incredibly consistent in smallbore over the last few weeks and that's been a weakness of ours in the past.

"We haven't shot scores this high in the fall before, so this has

laid a really great foundation for us going into the spring. A break over the holidays will be great for the team to get a chance to refresh and come back ready to keep pushing in the spring."

In smallbore, the Tigers claimed the top three positions and four of the top six, highlighted by Bodrogi's winning 591. Zych and Demerle followed with matching 588s, while Megan Jaros added a 582 to place fourth.

Memphis continued its dominance in air rifle by sweeping the top five. Zych led all shooters with a 597, followed by Bodrogi and Demerle at 596, Sophie Cruz with a 594 and Ewton with a 593.

With the win, Memphis completes a statement fall campaign and enters the winter break with momentum before returning to

action in January.

TIGER SCORECARD

- Emmet Bodrogi: 591 smallbore | 596 air rifle | 1187 aggregate | 92 centers
- Gabriela Zych: 588 smallbore | 597 air rifle | 1185 aggregate | 87 centers
- Katrina Demerle: 588 smallbore | 596 air rifle | 1184 aggregate | 85 centers
- Kenlee Ewton: 579 smallbore | 593 air rifle | 1173 aggregate | 64 centers
- Sophie Cruz: 594 air rifle | 594 aggregate | 43 centers
- Megan Jaros: 582 smallbore | 582 aggregate | 28 centers

For complete information on Memphis Tigers Rifle, visit www.GoTigersGo.com and follow the team's social media channels on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.

A Public Service Announcement: TDHS begins issuing full SNAP benefits for Tennessee families for November

NASHVILLE – The Tennessee Department of Human Services (TDHS) announced that, following the end of the federal government shutdown, it received guidance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service to begin issuing full Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits for November 2025 beginning Monday, November 17.

USDA has directed states to return to using the traditional calculation tables that determine maximum SNAP payment amounts, allowing benefits to be issued at the normal amounts. As a result, Tennessee SNAP recipients who received a partial November benefit will receive the remainder of their November benefit amount.

What SNAP Recipients Can Expect:
•SNAP households that previously received partial benefits will have the remaining benefit

amount added to their EBT card beginning Monday, November 17.

•Households that have not yet received any November benefits should expect to receive their full benefit amount in the coming days.

•Customers who typically receive benefits on the 18th, 19th, or 20th of the month will receive their November benefits on their usual date.

Additionally, December SNAP benefits will be issued in full on customers' normal date.

SNAP recipients can use the One DHS Customer Portal to view the latest case details at <https://onedhs.tn.gov/csp>.

SNAP customers can also use the ebtEDGE app or Cardholder Portal to check their benefit amounts by visiting <https://www.fis-global.com/ebtdgemobile> to download the app or log into the Cardholder Portal at <https://www.ebtedge.com/gov/po>

rtal/PortalHome.do.

For any additional information, customers are encouraged to visit the TDHS website here: <https://www.tn.gov/humanservices/federal-shutdown.html>.

ABOUT THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES (TDHS)

The Tennessee Department of Human Services (TDHS) consists of multiple divisions with a unified mission to strengthen Tennessee by strengthening Tennesseans. Led by governor-appointed Commissioner Clarence H. Carter, TDHS serves nearly two million Tennesseans to ensure that all state residents have an opportunity to reach their full potential as contributing members of their community. Among the many services and programs provided by TDHS, some of the leading programs include the Child Support Program, Child and Adult Day Services and Licensing, Families First (the

state's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Rehabilitation Services for people with disabilities, and Adult Protective Services, along with many others.

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