

**Contact: Martavius  
Hampton**  
OUTMemphis  
892 South Cooper  
Memphis TN 38104

The logo for OUTMEMPHIS, featuring the word "OUTMEMPHIS" in white, bold, uppercase letters centered on a solid black rectangular background.

## **OUTMemphis responds to the Supreme Court's decision to implement the military transgender ban**

### **Memphis, TN, January, 23, 2018:**

On Tuesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, the day after Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, the Supreme Court sanctioned President Trump's transgender military ban to go into effect. The ban does not exclude all transgender individuals from the military, but it will have a negative impact on millions of transgender individuals who currently serve or aspire to serve in our armed forces. Transgender Americans should have the same opportunities as non-transgender Americans to serve their country based on their merit and not their gender or gender identity. In these times of uncertainty and adversity, particularly for our trans brothers and sisters, it is important that we continue to support and advocate for the transgender community at large.

OUTMemphis unequivocally supports the advancement and overall well-being of ALL transgender Americans. A loss for the transgender community is a loss for the entire LGBTQ community. Hence, we hope that the Supreme Court reverses this potentially harmful and inequitable ruling because this is a step backwards for transgender civil rights. Until ALL transgender people can serve openly and proudly in the military, the work of OUTMemphis and the LGBTQ community continues to be needed more than ever.

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." - Martin Luther King, Jr.

For more information about at OUTMemphis, please contact Martavius Hampton, Director of Sexual Health, at OUTMemphis. His contact info is 901-278-6422 or [mhampton@outmemphis.org](mailto:mhampton@outmemphis.org).

*OUR MISSION: OUTMemphis empowers, connects, educates and advocates for the LGBTQ community of the Mid-South.*

*OUR VISION: LGBTQ individuals live in a world where everyone has equal rights, and is safe, respected and celebrated.*

**For Immediate Release**