Selective Service registration for transgender women

People who were assigned male at birth are required to register with Selective Service (the draft). This is true even if someone corrects her birth certificate and Social Security records to female prior to turning 18.

You must register within 30 days of turning 18. If you do not register after turning 18, you will likely get a letter telling you that you have to register. Failing to register or comply with the Military Selective Service Act is a felony punishable by a fine of up to $250,000 or a prison term of up to five years, or a combination of both.

Registering with Selective Service System

It is easy to register online with Selective Service if you are between the ages of 18-25 (https://www.sss.gov/Home/Registration). Use your legal name at the time of registering. You must select “male” to register as it will not let females register. You must select “male” even if you are listed as female with Social Security.

In the highly unlikely event that there is a draft, after registering, there is a chance you could be drafted. However, it is probable that you could get a medical exemption or even be denied the ability to serve.

Name change if already registered

If you are registered with Selective Service and are under 26, you must change your name with them within ten days of your legal name change. You will be mailed a new card.

To change your name, send Selective Service a letter including your full name, Social Security Number, Selective Service Number, and date of birth, as well as your mailing address. Sign and date your Selective Service card and include it. You must include a photocopy (it need not be a certified copy) of your name change order with the letter.

Mail to:
Registration Information Office
Selective Service System
Data Management Center
P.O. Box 94638
Palatine, IL 60094-4638