



## Keynote Speaker:

# MJ Hegar

Decorated pilot and  
Author of "Shoots like a Girl"

*Major MJ Hegar is a hero twice over—a decorated pilot, and the soldier who challenged longstanding military policy, winning women the right to serve on the front lines. She is also the author of the new memoir "Shoot Like a Girl," a soon-to-be major motion picture. Hegar's exceptional grit shows that fighting for what you believe in—in enemy territory and beyond—is always worthwhile.*



*During one of her three tours as a Medevac helicopter pilot in Afghanistan with the Air National Guard, Hegar's aircraft was shot down in enemy territory. The ensuing rescue earned her both the Distinguished Flying Cross with Valor (only the second woman in history to be so honored), and a Purple Heart. Unable to continue flying, Hegar sought and was denied a position in the Air Force. Once again, she fought back, leading efforts that resulted in the repeal of the Combat Exclusion Policy in 2013.*

*Hegar is one of two keynote speakers at the Fifth Annual NASWA Veterans Conference July 18-20, 2018, at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Washington DC. She currently works as a medical consultant, continues to mentor cadets, and serves on the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps Advisory Committee. In 2017, she joined the Board of Directors at the Texas Advocacy Project, an organization that provides legal representation and advocacy for victims of domestic abuse.*