Co-Sponsor the Stop Militarizing Law Enforcement Act

The Pentagon’s 1033 program transfers weapons designed for war zones to local police forces in the United States, fueling the perception that local law enforcement is a military force occupying our communities. With communities of color and poorer communities already experiencing higher incidents of excessive use of force, this militarization of the tools of law enforcement only makes matters worse. Rep. Hank Johnson introduced the Stop Militarizing Law Enforcement Act (H.R. 1714) in 2019 to place necessary limits and oversight on the 1033 program. His office is actively soliciting original cosponsors for this legislation.

The Stop Militarizing Law Enforcement Act (SMLA) would:

» Prohibit the military from transferring certain weapons, vehicles, and gear, including grenades, mine-resistant ambush-protected vehicles, and armored and weaponized drones.
» Require local agencies to notify their communities of any requests for 1033 equipment.
» Bar police departments that abuse civil liberties from receiving this 1033 equipment.
» Require the Secretary of Defense to report to Congress what military equipment was transferred, how much, and how it was used.
» Require the federal government to account for 100% of all controlled equipment through an in-person review.

Be an Original Co-Sponsor of the Stop Militarizing Law Enforcement Act

Further information contact: José Santos Woss, Legislative Manager for Criminal Justice: jose@fcnl.org