



April 28, 2015

AMERICAN CIVIL
LIBERTIES UNION
WASHINGTON
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE
915 15th STREET, NW, 6TH FL
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
T/202.544.1681
F/202.546.0738
WWW.ACLU.ORG

LAURA W. MURPHY
DIRECTOR

NATIONAL OFFICE
125 BROAD STREET, 18TH FL.
NEW YORK, NY 10004-2400
T/212.549.2500

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS
SUSAN N. HERMAN
PRESIDENT

ANTHONY D. ROMERO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ROBERT REMAR
TREASURER

The Honorable Mac Thornberry
Chairman, House Armed Services Committee
2216 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Adam Smith
Ranking Member, House Armed Services Committee
2216 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Reform DOD 1033 Program in NDAA FY16

Dear Chairman Thornberry and Ranking Member Smith:

For nearly 100 years, the ACLU has been our nation's guardian of liberty, working in courts, legislatures, and communities to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties that the Constitution and the laws of the United States guarantee everyone in this country. Consistent with this mission, the ACLU advocates for an end to militarized policing in our communities and advances reforms to federal programs that instigate militarization.

The ACLU commends the House Armed Services Committee for providing much needed transparency and oversight to the Department of Defense (DOD) 1033 program in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (NDAA FY16). A publicly accessible website that provides information on 1033 property transfers and the recipients of such property is necessary. We also support reporting requirements on 1033 property inventory and use and making such reports publicly available.

Reforms to the 1033 program must go further, however. As the Committee considers NDAA FY16, we urge you to consider additional reforms to 1033 consistent with H.R. 1232, the Stop Militarizing Law Enforcement Act, sponsored by Representative Hank Johnson.

The ACLU's 1033 reform priorities include:

- Prohibiting the transfer of military weapons and equipment not suitable for law enforcement, including Mine-Resistant Ambush-Protected vehicles (MRAPs);

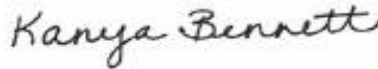
- Eliminating the requirement that law enforcement use weapons and equipment within one year of receipt; and
- Requiring the Secretary of Defense to provide Congress with an annual accounting of the military weapons and equipment transferred.

Thank you for considering our concerns. Please contact legislative counsel Kanya Bennett at (202) 715-0808 with any questions or comments.

Sincerely,



Michael W. Macleod-Ball
Acting Director



Kanya Bennett
Legislative Counsel

cc: Members of House Armed Services Committee