State Action Reform of the 1033 Program

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Panelists: Johnetta Elzie, co-founder of Campaign Zero, Yasmine Taeb, Legislative Director for Human Rights and Civil Liberties, Friends Committee on National Legislation

Problem: The line between law enforcement and the military has deteriorated in recent decades, bringing military-grade weapons to our streets and a war-like mentality into law enforcement. Families and communities have suffered as a result. Unsurprisingly, given the history of law enforcement in the U.S., it is the most vulnerable and marginalized communities that bear the brunt of militarized law enforcement. Not only does public trust in the police fall as weapons of war become more common in local law enforcement, but militarization also fails to enhance police safety or reduce crime rates. Community members are killed. American values are violated. The promise to serve and protect is broken.

Based on the conversation, our panelists had the following policy recommendations:

- **End or limit the DoD 1033 program in your state/community.** Our local police departments have equipment they aren't trained to use, and develop a mentality that they're at war with the people of their town, all while the events occurring in the community would most often NOT be benefitted by the presence of military equipment.

- **Push the Biden administration to sign an executive order to end the or limit the DoD 1033 program.** Pressing the White House is now the option because of the George Floyd Policing Act negotiations have stopped in Congress. Continue to talk to congressional leaders about this issue and encourage them to be uncomfortable with militarized policing in America.

- **Reach out to and meet with local police unions.** Police Unions play a huge role in advancing progress on ending or limiting the DoD 1033 program. Reach out to and meet with police unions in your community to understand why they are so interested in military weapons and union needs.

- **Build relationships with grassroots advocacy and other stakeholder groups.**

- **Get large unions (like NEA) to counter police union control and support the effort**