Breonna Taylor, a 26-year old EMT, was shot eight times in her bed during a botched execution of a no-knock search warrant. The warrant was not meant for Breonna, and the SWAT raid that killed her used a battering ram, forcibly entering her residence without announcing who they were. This wanton killing of innocent people in their homes is a result of militarized domestic policing. Law enforcement agencies have become equipped to carry out these SWAT raids by the 1033 federal excess property program that provides local forces with military-grade weaponry, which needlessly escalating situations to become violent and deadly.
In May 2014, a flashbang grenade was lobbed into a portable playpen, maiming a 19 month child, Bou Bou. Bou Bou sustained a long laceration and burns across his chest, exposing his ribs, and another gash between his upper lip and nose because of a no-knock SWAT raid authorized to investigate $50 worth of methamphetamine. Incomplete intelligence, limited training, and military-grade weaponry procured by the unregulated 1033 program enabled officers to use a flashbang grenade that mutilated an innocent child.

BY THE NUMBERS
From 2006-2016, 1.5 million pieces of equipment were disbursed including:

- Grenade launchers ($40,000+)
- Helicopters ($158.3 million)
- Airplanes ($271.5 million)
- Armored trucks & cars ($21.3 million)
- Mine resistant vehicles ($421.1 million)
- Riot 12-gauge shotguns ($137,265)
- Pistols ($491,769)
- M16/M14 Rifles ($31.2 million)
- Bayonets ($307,769)

KEY TAKEAWAYS (cont.)
**The 1033 Program militarizes our police force and our communities**
- The distribution of controlled items actually increases police violence.
- Research suggests that officers with military hardware and mindsets will resort to violence more quickly and often.
- Police tactics have also trended towards militarism along with the equipment and spending. For example, SWAT teams were originally developed for emergency responses but have increasingly become a tool for home searches for drugs. Today, 89% of police departments have a SWAT team, a huge increase since the 1960s.
- Communities peacefully protesting racial injustice are coming face to face with militarized police forces, like in Ferguson, Missouri, and actual military police battalions, as seen in Washington, DC.
- The government requirement to use equipment within a year of receipt incentivizes the police forces to use the equipment unnecessarily.

**The 1033 Program does not work as intended**
- Special weapons and tactics teams are deployed more often in communities of color but they do not provide detectable benefits in increasing officer safety or reducing violent crime.
- Military grade weapons transfers do not actually reduce crime.