



## MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

September 22, 2021

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Toronto, Ontario  
Vancouver, B.C.  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
York Region, Ontario

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer  
Majority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Steve Scalise  
Minority Whip  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McCarthy, Leader Hoyer, and Whip Scalise,

I write on behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) to register our opposition to Rep. Johnson's amendment (#534) to H.R. 4350, the *National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022*. The MCCA is a professional organization of police executives representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada.

The MCCA supports the 1033 Program and has advocated for increased transparency by incorporating additional oversight and accountability measures; communities have a right to know what equipment is being provided and for what purposes. The MCCA is opposed to efforts that would dramatically limit access to life-saving equipment via the 1033 Program by restricting access to equipment and placing onerous administrative burdens on local law enforcement agencies.

1033 equipment that law enforcement agencies would lose access to, should the Johnson amendment be adopted, has been used to respond to a range of public safety threats, including natural disasters, terrorist attacks, active shooters, and other emergencies. Restricting the 1033 Program is not the solution, more transparency and accountability is a better path forward as local law enforcement faces an uptick in extreme weather and a fluid and evolving threat environment.

Over the past year and a half, the MCCA has engaged in good faith with Members on both sides of the aisle, civil rights and civil liberties groups, community members, and numerous other stakeholders to enact meaningful reform within the law enforcement profession and build trust with the communities we serve. These discussions have centered on various topics, including the 1033 Program. Unfortunately, Rep. Johnson's amendment risks undermining these conversations and the progress made thus far.

The MCCA encourages the House to reject this amendment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Art Acevedo', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Chief Art Acevedo  
Chief, Miami Police Department  
President, Major Cities Chiefs Association