



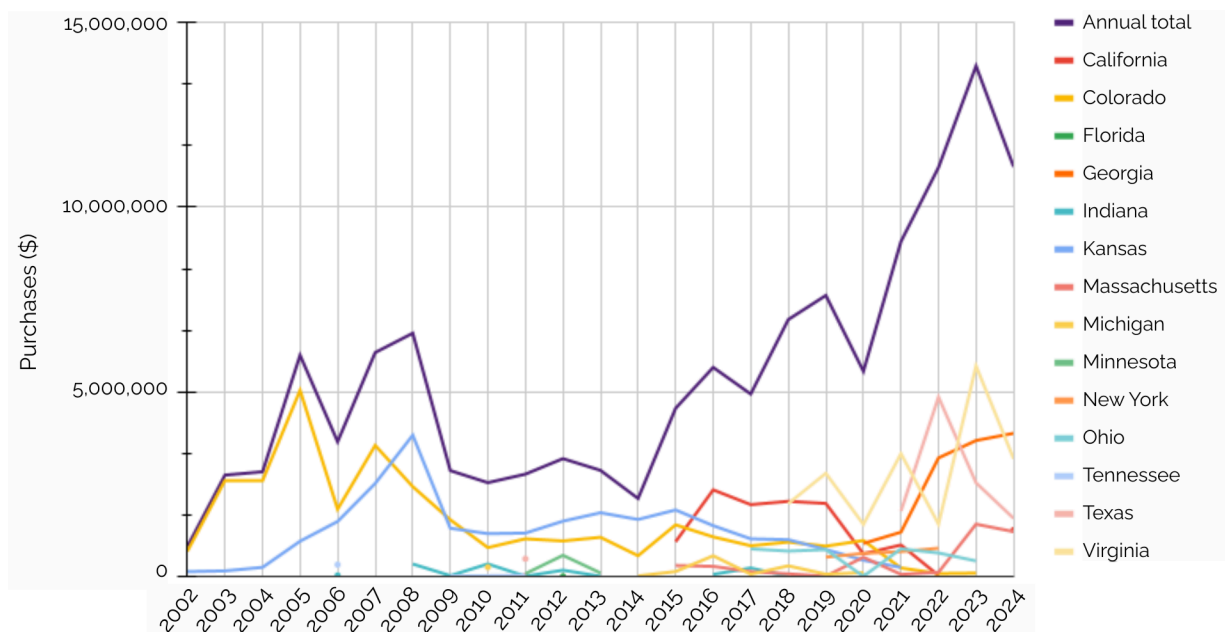
Military Spending Monitor – November 5, 2025: The 1122 Program: Militarizing Police at Taxpayers' Expense

A [new report](#) by [Women for Weapons Trade Transparency](#) investigates the 1122 Program, a federal program that allows state and local governments to acquire law enforcement equipment at a discount through federal procurement channels. The stated intent of the program is to support counter-drug, homeland security, and emergency response efforts. Decades after its creation, the 1122 Program continues to operate with minimal transparency, characterized by under-reporting and inconsistent record-keeping, while militarizing local police to the detriment—rather than the benefit—of public safety.

Hundreds of Millions in Taxpayer Dollars Spent

Analyzing \$126.87 million in purchases from 13 states, four cities, and two counties (resulting from filing records requests with 125 jurisdictions in total—a successful data acquisition rate of just 15.2%), the report suggests total spending on the 1122 Program is in the upper hundreds of millions of dollars.

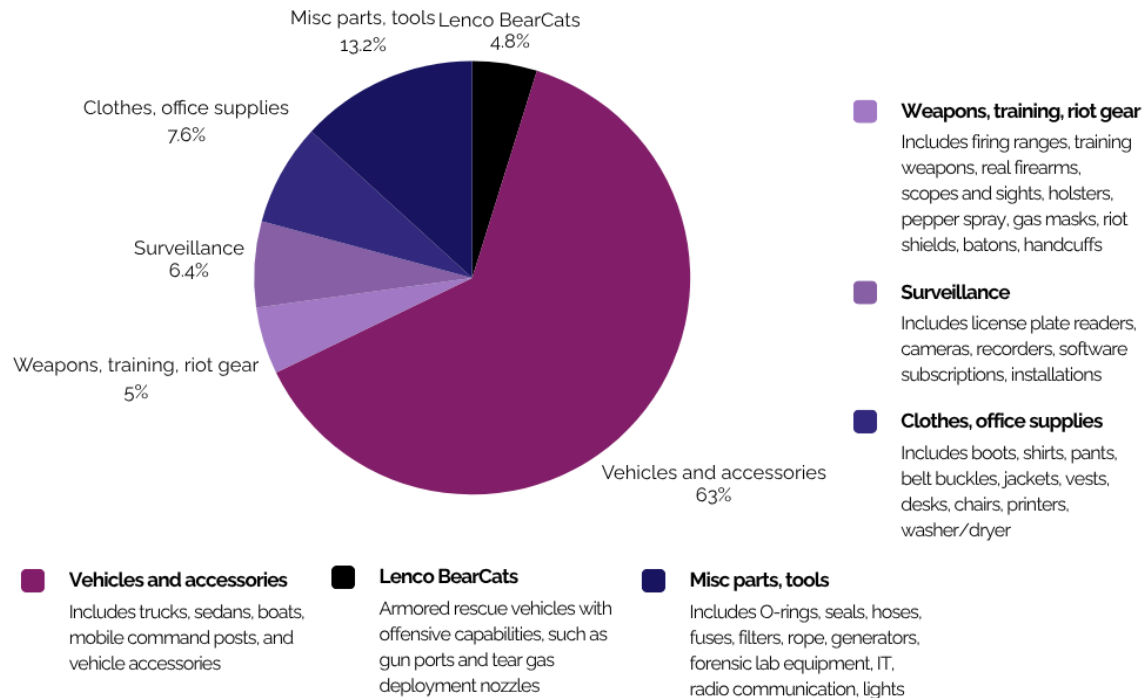
1122 purchases over time by state



Of the 650 agencies identified as having purchased through the program, only 4-5% were fire departments or emergency management agencies, while the remaining 95% were police departments, county sheriff's offices, and state law enforcement agencies. The majority of spending (63%) was on vehicles (excluding Lenco BearCat armored vehicles). Over \$6 million was spent to purchase 16 BearCats, and over \$8 million was spent on surveillance technology.

Percentage of total 1122 spending per category

Data from 2002-2025



Policy Recommendations

States using the 1122 Program to purchase a variety of dangerous or frivolous equipment runs counter to the very purpose of the program to cost-effectively enhance public safety. With a lack of oversight and auditing, the unchecked flow of military-style equipment to local police has reshaped the character of policing in America, blurring the line between civilian law enforcement and military force. Meanwhile, manufacturers of military equipment profit from 1122-subsidized domestic law enforcement purchases, at the expense of constituents being deprived of the vital services their tax dollars are meant to provide.

The report recommends remedying these failures by:

1. **Sunsetting the 1122 Program** – Congress should repeal the authority granted under 10 U.S.C. § 281(d), thereby terminating the legal basis for the program
2. **Conducting a Federal Audit and Public Inventory Before Wind-Down** – As part of the sunset process, Congress should require relevant Inspectors General to compile and publish a full public inventory of all equipment acquired, and weapons loaned, through the 1122 Program since its expansion in 2009. This inventory should be audited by the Government Accountability Office.
3. **Redirecting Federal Procurement Support Toward Civilian Public Safety** – The administrative resources currently used to support 1122 should be reallocated to programs that address the root causes of insecurity. This includes housing, health care, education, substance use treatment, and community-led emergency response services rooted in care rather than force.