

UNCLASSIFIED

AY 2017-2018 PROSPECTIVE RESEARCH TOPIC NOMINATION

*CLASSIFICATION:	Unclassified
*RESEARCH TOPIC TITLE:	Department of Defense Counter-Drug Role
*TOPIC DESCRIPTION	Should the Department of Defense (DoD) play a significant role in domestic counter-narcotics efforts? If so, do its current authorities, policies, funding levels, and activities adequately fill that role, or do they require significant changes? Recommend any appropriate changes.
*DATE SUBMITTED (YYYY-MM-DD)	2017-06-19
*EXTENDED TOPIC DESCRIPTION	The Department of Defense currently participates in a whole of government approach to countering illicit drugs, largely managed by the office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Counternarcotics and Global Threats (DASD CN>). The DASD CN> manages DoD counter narcotics efforts around the world. DoD participates in two Joint Interagency Task Forces (JIATFs) that interdict drugs along the Caribbean/South/Central American approaches (JIATF-S) and the Pacific (JIATF-W). Domestically, Title 32 DoD addresses the drug threat through National Guard Counter Drug Programs. Through Joint Task Force North (JTF-N), DoD provides Title 10 support to federal law enforcement agencies with voluntary DoD units that provide military unique capabilities while simultaneously receiving training benefits. However, decreasing budgets and new threats mean that DoD funding for many CN programs is decreasing even as domestic harm done by drug trafficking organizations through drugs such as heroin and methamphetamines are increasing. Decreasing resources as drug threats change and increase suggest the need for a re-examination of DoD's counter-drug role.
*DESIRED OBJECTIVES OF THE RESEARCH	To more clearly define the appropriate role of DoD for domestic counter-drug efforts within the US government interagency.
*REQUESTING/SPONSORING ORGANIZATION:	Joint Task Force North (JTF-N)
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DESIRED RESEARCH COMPLETION DATE (YYYY-MM-DD):	Standing topic – not time sensitive.
AVAILABLE FUNDING, If any	JTF-N may be able to support funding for TDY travel on a case-by-case basis.
COMMENTS	JTF-N can mentor students/researchers through refinement of this research topic and can assist with contacts with other interagency partners.