

National Guard Counterdrug (CD) Program

What is it?

Since 1989, the National Guard Counterdrug Program (NGCDP) provides unique assets to its Law Enforcement Agency (LEA) customers: highly trained Soldiers and Airmen who possess military-specific skill sets that are generally unobtainable by civilian law enforcement personnel. Additionally, the NGCDP provides equipment and systems that enable these Guardsmen to support LEAs effectively and efficiently in their mission to detect, interdict, and disrupt drug linked transnational crime.

What has the CD Program done?

The CD program is executed by the governors of each of the 54 States and Territories and supports the strategic goals of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). In FY11, approximately 2,600 National Guard personnel in Title 32 status provided counterdrug support to LEAs and seized drugs with an estimated street value of \$11.8 billion.

National Guard CD program accomplishments include:

- **Civil Operations:**
By adapting to the threat in FY11, Drug Demand Reduction transformed to Civil Operations. This transformation is a more effective use of the limited resources available and is a more strategic role for the specific skills within the National Guard. In addition, this change better supports COCOMs and domestic coalitions while collaborating with federal and civilian partners to develop effective strategies to community problems. Civil Operations develops effective community coalitions and implements evidence based strategies to create population level change. Effective Civil Operations supports a two pronged **Balanced** strategy – Supply Reduction & Demand Reduction.
- **Counterdrug Training Centers:**
The National Guard continues to expand training programs at CD training centers while working with the Department of Defense and other interagency partners, producing actionable intelligence that supports the homeland defense and security missions. Five Counterdrug Training Centers (WA, MS, FL, IA, PA) trained 4,331 military, 53,098 law enforcement officers, and 8,811 coalition members in FY11.
- **Criminal Analysts:**
National Guard Counterdrug Criminal Analysts act as force multipliers for Local, State, and Federal Law Enforcement Agencies by analyzing information collected from various sources, and disseminating it effectively. Criminal Analysts support approximately 260 counternarcotics task forces in all 54 States and Territories. Their skills in link analysis, document exploitation, financial analysis and case construction have assisted with bringing thousands of drug related cases to prosecution.

- **Counterdrug Aviation:**

The NG supports the CD effort with both rotary and fixed wing aircraft. Currently, 144 Army National Guard (ARNG) OH-58A Kiowa helicopters are assigned to CD missions. Of these, 116 are fully outfitted and specially equipped for CD missions. The Air National Guard provides 11 specially equipped RC-26B fixed wing aircraft in support of the CD mission. Both platforms have supported the Southwest border mission as well as overseas missions. During FY11, CD aviation assets flew 21,383 hours supporting federal, state, and LEAs in CD missions. In FY11, the National Guard Aviation efforts led to 2,750 arrests and assisted law enforcement in seizing hundreds of thousands of pounds of drugs; 1,754 weapons; 330 vehicles; more than \$16 million in property; and nearly \$10 million in cash.

What continued efforts does the NG CD Program have planned for the future?

The National Guard CD program will continue to focus on supporting DoD Core Missions. Beginning in FY12, DASD-CN directed and funded project code (PC) 9301 (\$2.5 million) to support six law enforcement agency partners: Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA), Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE), and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) in various cities across the United States. The NG CDP selected 26 Counter Threat Finance Analysts to support this PC.

For the foreseeable future, the National Guard expects to provide aviation support both overseas and stateside. Several of the RC-26B aircraft will continue to support combatant commanders while the remaining aircraft undergo software and equipment modifications to provide better support here at home.

Why is this important to the National Guard?

As the CD mission continues to expand, the nexus between drugs and terrorism has become more evident. The unique training and specialized equipment, and the corresponding capabilities, make the National Guard CD program an increasingly important part of the overall homeland defense and security missions.