

2014 Principios Invitational Congressional Debate Bills

High School Division

Preliminary Round 1:

A Resolution to Reduce Police Paramilitary Tactics

WHEREAS, the 1033 Program, created as part of the National Defense Authorization Act of 1997, has militarized police forces across the nation by providing surplus military equipment including helicopters, tanks, and military-grade weapons through low- or no-cost grants; and

WHEREAS, Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) teams and other paramilitary police units, designed to be the last resort in hostage or high-risk situations, have increasingly become the first option for a variety of traditional police duties; and

WHEREAS, currently SWAT teams in the US violently smash into homes an average of 100-150 times each day to enforce laws against predominantly non-violent crimes; and

WHEREAS, information giving rise to these raids is often based on unreliable and unverified information from police snitches; and

WHEREAS, police department statistics indicate that as many as 1 in 10 of these "no knock" paramilitary raids may be perpetrated at the wrong address; and

WHEREAS, any perceived noncompliance by occupants in these raids is typically met with potentially lethal force; and

WHEREAS, these paramilitary style raids threaten the foundation of the 4th Amendment's search and seizure protections; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled that the 1033 Program should be abolished; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the use of SWAT and other similar paramilitary police units should be restricted to their original duties of hostage negotiation and interventions in situations deemed to be of extreme danger.

Preliminary Round 2:

A Bill to Aid Illegal Aliens Through Conditional Residency

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 SECTION 1. Illegal aliens that entered the United States one month before the enactment of this

3 legislation will be given temporary amnesty for residence ("yellow card").

4 A. The candidate must have no criminal record, nor be the subject of an open

5 criminal investigation, and must be employed, attending college for a degree in an

6 underserved industry, or be current primary or secondary school students with a

7 cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, on the 4.0 scale.

8 B. Successful candidates are only entitled to a maximum of 75% of all entitlement benefits.

10 C. Successful candidates must pay all Federal, State, and local taxes they owe,

11 including a minimum of 3% of their annual income in Federal taxes.

12 D. Successful candidates may obtain citizenship if they serve two years in the

13 United States Armed Forces or AmeriCorps, are honorably discharged, or

14 equivalent, and have 10 years continuous residence.

15 E. Successful candidates will lose their residence status and be deported if

16 they are convicted of a felony, or convicted of a more than one gross misdemeanor.

17 SECTION 2. A "candidate" shall be defined as an illegal immigrant seeking a yellow card. A

18 "successful candidate" shall be defined as one who has met the criteria outlined in

19 Section 1. An "underserved industry" shall be defined at the discretion of the

20 United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.

21 SECTION 3. This legislation shall be enforced by the U. S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

22 SECTION 4. This legislation shall go into effect immediately upon passage.

23 SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby null and void.

Finals Round:

Whereas Al Qaeda has been drastically weakened in the Middle East and

Whereas imprecise drone attacks have resulted in countless unintended deaths

Whereas which have only stoked hatred of the U.S. and created new terrorists and

Whereas lingering resentment of the U.S. over the collateral damage stemming

Whereas from drones has harmed our ability to win "hearts & minds" in the region

Resolved by the Congress here assembled that:

the U.S. should cease the use of "predator drones" in the Middle East by Jan. 1, 2015
and strictly limit the use of drones in the region to spying & the collection of data