

**MONDAY MORNING GROUP OF WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY
ANNUAL ADVOCACY TRIP – WASHINGTON, DC
APRIL 20-23, 2026**

**NATIONAL GUARD COUNTER-DRUG PROGRAM FUNDING
TO DENY TRANSNATIONAL CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS & FENTANYL PROLIFERATION**

ISSUE: Transnational criminal organizations (TCOs) continue expanding operations involving narcotics, human trafficking, and illegal firearms, with fentanyl now driving unprecedented overdose deaths nationwide. The National Guard Counter Drug Program remains a critical force multiplier for federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement, but current funding falls far short of its authorized capacity and limits support at a time of escalating threat.

ACTION: Congress has authorized staffing for 4,000 personnel, yet current funding supports only about 2,600, leaving hundreds of mission requests unmet and constraining intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, and aerial support operations. The Monday Morning Group requests \$316.59 million in FY27 to align the program with personnel cost increases, restore authorized staffing levels, and meet rising operational demands driven by fentanyl trafficking.

BACKGROUND: Since 1990, the National Guard Counter Drug Program has strengthened law enforcement efforts nationwide. In California, partnerships with more than 100 agencies have disrupted criminal networks and denied billions of dollars in operating capital to TCOs. As the fentanyl crisis intensifies, demand for specialized intelligence analysis, aerial detection, and reconnaissance continues to grow, yet program funding has remained flat while threats and operational requirements accelerate.

Without increased investment, the program will continue operating below capacity, reducing support to law enforcement and limiting national efforts to disrupt fentanyl trafficking and dismantle TCO operations. Additional funding will:

- Expand support to federal, state, and local agencies through enhanced intelligence and operational capabilities.
- Increase surveillance, reconnaissance, and aerial mission capacity to match rising fentanyl related activity.
- Close the gap between authorized staffing and current funding to meet outstanding mission requests.