Abstract: Rio de Janeiro’s UPP program has been advertised as a significant new method of policing Rio’s impoverished shantytowns (favelas). The novelty of the UPP is that it presents a holistic approach to incorporating these lawless areas into Brazilian civil society. The UPP program is not simply a police force, it is a permanent civil authority that brings civil services such as utilities, garbage collection, and other metropolitan infrastructure as well as community development projects and educational services in an effort to not only pacify the criminal elements of the slums, but also to invigorate community development so that these areas become fully “incorporated” with regular Brazilian life. Our research team seeks to explore the legal ramifications of the UPP program by analyzing whether there is a concomitant investment in legal rights as well as civil development and how, if at all, the legal rights of the citizens in these impoverished areas have changed through the introduction of the UPP.