

## GUN VIOLENCE RESTRAINING ORDERS

If you are concerned someone close to you may use a firearm to hurt themselves or others, you may be able to file a Gun Violence Restraining Order to provide the opportunity for them to safely access help and to prevent gun violence and firearm suicide.

You can access a step-by-step guide and find all the required documents to file a request for a Gun Violence Restraining Order online at [gunsafety.ca.gov](https://gunsafety.ca.gov) or at your local Superior Court.



### WHAT IS A GUN VIOLENCE RESTRAINING ORDER?

- A Gun Violence Restraining Order is a **temporary action taken by a local court** when someone is at risk of causing harm to themselves or others.
- The individual in crisis receiving the order **cannot purchase or possess firearms or ammunition** while the order is in place.
- These temporary orders **empower Californians to intervene, protect the rights of individuals** in crisis and are not considered punishment under the law.



### HOW DOES A GUN VIOLENCE RESTRAINING ORDER KEEP PEOPLE SAFE?

- Research shows that Gun Violence Restraining Order in California **helped prevent 58 threatened mass shootings** in the first three years since taking effect.
- Gun Violence Restraining Order help prevent firearm suicides, which represent half of the state's gun deaths. Data shows enforcement of a similar law helped lead to a **14-percent reduction** in Connecticut's firearm suicide rate.



### WHO CAN FILE A REQUEST FOR GUN VIOLENCE RESTRAINING ORDER IN CALIFORNIA?

It is free to file a request for a Gun Violence Restraining Order.

Eligible petitioners include:

- A family member or loved one related by blood, marriage or adoption.
- A current or recent household member and roommate.
- A coworker who has had regular interactions with the person in crisis for at least one year, with approval from the employer.
- A teacher or employee at a middle school, high school, college or university that the person in crisis has attended in the last six months, with approval from a school administrator or supervisor.
- Law enforcement, including California peace officers.
- An individual who has a child in common or who has a dating relationship with the person in crisis.

**IF YOU OR A LOVED ONE IS ACTIVELY EXPERIENCING A CRISIS AND AT IMMINENT RISK OF SELF-HARM OR HARM TO OTHERS, CALL 911.**