

# WHAT IS A GUN VIOLENCE RESTRAINING ORDER?

## A TOOL TO PREVENT SELF-HARM AND HARM TO OTHERS

California is taking action to protect communities from gun violence with tools like a **Gun Violence Restraining Order**, which 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.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO FILE A REQUEST FOR A GUN VIOLENCE RESTRAINING ORDER, THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AND AT YOUR LOCAL SUPERIOR COURT.

**THERE IS NO FEE TO FILE.**



- 1 Fill Out Your Court Papers and Prepare to File.
- 2 File Your Petition with the Clerk.
- 3 Get Your Petition Back from the Clerk.
- 4 Arrange for the Order to be Served to the Person in Crisis.

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

FAMILY MEMBER



CURRENT OR RECENT HOUSEHOLD MEMBER OR ROOMMATE



EMPLOYER OR COWORKER



TEACHER OR EMPLOYEE AT A MIDDLE SCHOOL, HIGH SCHOOL, COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY



AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS A CHILD IN COMMON OR A DATING RELATIONSHIP



LAW ENFORCEMENT



## WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT GUN VIOLENCE RESTRAINING ORDERS

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



Need help filling a request? Legal help may be available at [www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp-selfhelpcenters.htm](http://www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp-selfhelpcenters.htm) and through your court's Self Help Center

For more information on Gun Violence Restraining Orders, visit [gunsafety.ca.gov](http://gunsafety.ca.gov)

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

