

Your Guidance. Their Safety. Educators Can Prevent School Violence.



Gun violence is a public health crisis that endangers California’s youth. It’s the second leading cause of death among children and teens in the state.¹

If you are in immediate danger, please call 911.

California’s civil protection orders save lives by giving families and communities a way to act before tragedy occurs. Protection orders (also known as restraining orders) such as the Gun Violence Restraining Order (GVRO) and Postsecondary School Violence Restraining Order (SVRO) and others allow courts to temporarily remove firearms and ammunition from people who are threatening harm.

Why It Matters

- **Guns are the leading cause of death among children and teens in the U.S.**²
- **There have been more than 200 school shootings in California since 1970.**³
- **More than 397,000 U.S. students have experienced gun violence at school since the Columbine shooting in 1999.**⁴



School Violence Has a Lasting Effect on Families and Communities

Students are affected by the impact of exposure to school violence for years after the tragedy.

- Students who have experienced a school shooting are **less likely to graduate** high school, enroll in college and obtain a bachelor’s degree.⁵
- Students exposed to school shootings are more likely to be **chronically absent**, repeat a grade, and have **lower standardized test scores.**⁵

“It’s important to have a school culture where students feel safe and empowered.”

-Principal Hans Becker, Rancho Bernardo High School, who prevented a school shooting by filing a GVRO

[1] EveryStat.(n.d.). How does gun violence impact the communities you care about? [Source Link](#). [2] Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.(2024). New Report Highlights U.S. 2022 Gun-Related Deaths: Firearms Remain Leading Cause of Death for Children and Teens, and Disproportionately Affect People of Color. [Source Link](#). [3] California School Boards Association.(2023). School Shootings in the U.S. & California.[ASHX]. [Source Link](#). [4] John Woodrow Cox, Steven Rich, Lucas Trevor, John Muyskens and Monica Ulmanu.(2025). More than 398,000 students have experienced gun violence at school since Columbine.Washington Post. [Source Link](#). [5] Maya Rossin-Slater.(2022). Surviving a school shooting: Impacts on the mental health, education, and earnings of American youth. SIEPR. [Source Link](#)



Take Action

Most people show signs before committing acts of gun violence. Studies show that approximately **80% of individuals who committed a mass shooting were in crisis**, and **nearly half** had leaked their plans in advance to others.⁶

- **If you see something, say something.** It is up to all of us to report threatening behavior seen on social media or in person.
- **Call 911 during active emergencies.**

You Could Save a Life With GVROs and SVROs

Gun Violence Restraining Order (GVRO)

- A GVRO can help individuals in crisis who may hurt themselves or others by temporarily removing their firearms and preventing new purchases.
- Those eligible to file: law enforcement, spouse or partner, family members, roommates, coworkers, or teachers.
- Lasts up to 21 days and can be extended up to 1-5 years.

Postsecondary School Violence Restraining Order (SVRO)

- A SVRO protects students at colleges and trade schools by restricting contact, temporarily removing firearms and ammunition and preventing new purchases.
- Those eligible to file: A college or trade school leader, or someone they appoint.
- Lasts up to 21 days and can be extended up to 1-5 years.

**Know when to file a protection order.
You can help save a life.**

Learn more at ReducetheRisk.ca.gov



[6] National Institute of Justice. (2022). Public Mass Shootings: Database Amasses Details of a Half Century of U.S. Mass Shootings with Firearms, Generating Psychosocial Histories. [Source Link](#)