

Trusted to Care. Empowered to Prevent Gun Violence.



You can help prevent gun violence with protection orders.

If you are in immediate danger, please call 911.

Gun violence is a preventable public health crisis that plagues California. 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), Domestic Violence Restraining Order (DVRO) and others allow courts to temporarily remove firearms and ammunition from people who are threatening harm to themselves or others. These orders provide critical time and space for survivors and their loved ones to seek safety.

Why It Matters

- **Protection orders save lives.** UC Davis researchers found that no suicides occurred among individuals who were under a protection order during the first three years following GVRO implementation in California.¹
- **Protection orders are effective.** Protection orders helped to prevent 58 mass shootings during the first three years of GVRO implementation in California.²
- **People support use of protection orders.** Californians overwhelmingly agree they would consider filing a protection order for a family member at risk of harm.³



If a patient is in danger, help is available. There are nine types of protection orders in California, each built for different situations and all play a role in preventing gun violence:

Types of Protection Orders:

- Gun Violence Restraining Order
- Domestic Violence Restraining Order
- Postsecondary School Violence Restraining Order
- Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse Restraining Order
- Juvenile Restraining Order
- Civil Harassment Restraining Order
- Workplace Violence Restraining Order
- Criminal Protective Order
- Emergency Protective Order

Healthcare Professionals— Among the Most Influential

- Research shows behavioral health and medical professionals are among the most trusted messengers to provide information about protection orders.⁴
- Although health professionals cannot file a protection order on behalf of a patient, they can counsel and advise those who are in danger about protection orders.

Take Action to Reduce the Risk



Teach others about the warning signs

- Suddenly cutting ties with friends or family
- Talking about self-harm or harming others
- Showing intense anger or acting out of control
- Making threats toward others
- Bullying behavior
- Boasting about having access to guns

Connect People to Help



- Call 911 during emergencies
- Call or text 988 for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
- Call 1-800-799-SAFE (7233) for the National Domestic Violence Hotline

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

Learn more at ReducetheRisk.ca.gov

