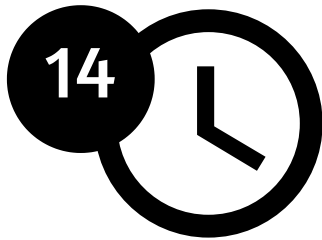


Firearm Safety and Extreme Risk Protection Order Legislation



A Missourian dies of a gun-related suicide every 14 hours



More than 60% of MO intimate partner homicides involve a gun



Almost 60% of suicides in Missouri involve firearms

Statistics:

- With the 7th highest rate of gun deaths per capita, over 1,000 Missourians die from gun violence each year.
- 85% of suicide attempts with a gun are fatal, making it the most lethal means available.
- Yet 90% of people who survive a suicide do not ultimately die by suicide.
- The presence of a firearm makes a domestic violence incident far more likely to end in a death.
- As physicians, we see first-hand the devastating impact of such violence on our patients and their families. We are the ones that often have to inform and counsel families that have lost a loved one. We treat survivors of gun violence who often face lifelong disabilities and trauma, and we treat their family members.

How can Missourians have a safer coexistence with firearms?

One strategy: Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPO):

- In many shootings, family and household members are the first to notice signs that a loved one is becoming a danger to themselves or others. In most states, unfortunately, there are few tools for family members or law enforcement to intervene during these periods of crisis.
- An extreme risk protection order (also referred to as a red flag gun law) empowers law enforcement and families to prevent gun tragedies by allowing them to petition a court to temporarily remove guns from individuals at an elevated risk of endangering themselves or others. An ERPO temporarily prohibits individuals in crisis from purchasing or accessing firearms and requires them to relinquish any guns they possess while the order is in effect. A court hearing is held, usually within 14-21 days of the removal, for the individual in crisis to petition to have his or her guns restored if desired.
- A Duke University study showed that for every 20 situations where guns were removed from individuals in crisis, one suicide was prevented. The majority of risk-warrants served were for suicidality or self-injury concerns.
- Eighteen states have similar laws and at least 5 others are currently considering bipartisan ERPO bills.
- The US Supreme Court, as well as several state court rulings, have upheld laws similar to extreme risk protection orders.

Current Legislation: HB1829, Rep. Alan Green, had a Second Read on 1/09/2020.