

# Reducing Gun Violence: Extreme Risk Protection Orders



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In the aftermath of school shootings, many schools adopt anonymous reporting systems to help keep their communities safe.

[In this video](#), presenters discuss how Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPOs) can be used to protect schools and reduce gun violence through reporting, including key findings from ERPO implementation in the state of Oregon.

## Learning Outcomes

- » Describe what an ERPO is and what it does.
- » Summarize ERPOs potential role in preventing school shootings.

## Key Takeaways

- ✓ An ERPO temporarily prohibits an individual at high or imminent risk of harming themselves or others from purchasing or possessing a gun.
- ✓ A study of ERPO use in Oregon showed that ERPOs were being used to prevent school shootings.
- ✓ ERPOs were used to prevent school safety threats that may not have been otherwise identified, because all reported threats to K-12 schools involved individuals over the age of 18.
- ✓ ERPOs fall under the civil justice system, so they do not affect an individual's criminal record.
- ✓ Additional research is needed to understand how ERPOs fit in with school safety efforts.

## Additional Resources

[Zeoli, A., et al. \(2021\). Use of extreme risk protection orders to reduce gun violence in Oregon. \*Criminology & Public Policy\* 20\(2\), 243-261. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1745-9133.12544>](#) - This is the article that informed the video and this summary of ERPOs.

[School Safety & Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design \(CPTED\)](#) - This video shares recommendations from a survey of school principals who implemented CPTED.

## Questions for Discussion

- » Do families with students at your school have access to safe gun storage education? Is there a way to inform the school community about safe gun storage recommendations?
- » Does your state have an extreme risk protection law? If so, does your school community know about it? How could the community's awareness of the law protect your school?

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This project was supported by Cooperative Agreement No 2019 YS BX K 001 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.