**New Statewide Public Awareness Campaign on ERPO and Safe Storage**

The Office of Gun Violence Prevention has launched **Let’s Talk Guns, Colorado**, an English- and Spanish-language campaign to reduce firearm injuries and deaths in Colorado.

The goal of the campaign is to raise awareness about state and federal laws and existing resources related to reducing gun violence in our communities. It also challenges everyone – whether they own a gun or not – to have constructive conversations with friends, family, and neighbors about firearm safety. The campaign is based on the premise that we all have a role to play to prevent gun violence and can take everyday actions to hold ourselves and each other accountable for making Colorado a safer and healthier place to live.

We encourage you to visit [LetsTalkGunsColorado.com](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001kNLfoATvR7Rh6p-4nl6yoyJvnDuyvXl8tRPS647meHAkKKVsSlftpeK8DKZZYfWOtTXpBfYuwyGFpSqJ-f57Qsw5YjLBs0GjCPK-KcjtEdQ5mxANX_A8mV13g97SoC9JzD9q3p9oG25d1wbbzt6gCVTGLq7UFYvb&c=mxx3LxnL-QD12IfNBn5iC1Sdln7KE1YMuCYQEBeBwhHQ94GEwE6GBg==&ch=mSChwUBzsjc2sVSdj-k03myPQzhz-XuLf7O2mYt5WciXpHnASrgG_A==) to learn about:

* Best practices for safe storage of firearms.
* How to report a lost or stolen firearm.
* Mental health and substance misuse treatment and resources (including suicide prevention services).
* Extreme Risk Protection Orders, and more.

You can also join the conversation about ways to prevent gun violence in Colorado on social media. Follow the campaign on [Facebook](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001kNLfoATvR7Rh6p-4nl6yoyJvnDuyvXl8tRPS647meHAkKKVsSlftpeK8DKZZYfWOqIkBvbCM3h6iP7vOu4do1QxjB9OIX3qABeJrTyRpvTV3CTegC5XJjBKKcYLn5qX_FfgKfz1L8qD3CA7psL5G6GbrLdN_b9cdhfOENYCAuLk=&c=mxx3LxnL-QD12IfNBn5iC1Sdln7KE1YMuCYQEBeBwhHQ94GEwE6GBg==&ch=mSChwUBzsjc2sVSdj-k03myPQzhz-XuLf7O2mYt5WciXpHnASrgG_A==), [Instagram](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001kNLfoATvR7Rh6p-4nl6yoyJvnDuyvXl8tRPS647meHAkKKVsSlftpeK8DKZZYfWONyvedPFLJ2WF8cDce6ClWWKODhRIrTjaOBFqUn7JgLqwodow9VM0U06YBIg_5csx3wVmu17kNXNjhVm1bpPhjWAWIeWiPqyI4BT24Lum46lXI4msdM_KLQ==&c=mxx3LxnL-QD12IfNBn5iC1Sdln7KE1YMuCYQEBeBwhHQ94GEwE6GBg==&ch=mSChwUBzsjc2sVSdj-k03myPQzhz-XuLf7O2mYt5WciXpHnASrgG_A==), and [X](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001kNLfoATvR7Rh6p-4nl6yoyJvnDuyvXl8tRPS647meHAkKKVsSlftpeK8DKZZYfWOZI1HyaFZa6ssW85NyvtqX1rGmVcX9vQ5cSHMYsDe-Uj8A8wWKhKYgnWhg4ZxsBzPyUA517X53QklyT79KAhc8evOuiBzAIXH&c=mxx3LxnL-QD12IfNBn5iC1Sdln7KE1YMuCYQEBeBwhHQ94GEwE6GBg==&ch=mSChwUBzsjc2sVSdj-k03myPQzhz-XuLf7O2mYt5WciXpHnASrgG_A==). Use hashtags #EndGunViolence and #GunViolencePrevention on your social media platforms and share [LetsTalkGunsColorado.com](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001kNLfoATvR7Rh6p-4nl6yoyJvnDuyvXl8tRPS647meHAkKKVsSlftpeK8DKZZYfWOtTXpBfYuwyGFpSqJ-f57Qsw5YjLBs0GjCPK-KcjtEdQ5mxANX_A8mV13g97SoC9JzD9q3p9oG25d1wbbzt6gCVTGLq7UFYvb&c=mxx3LxnL-QD12IfNBn5iC1Sdln7KE1YMuCYQEBeBwhHQ94GEwE6GBg==&ch=mSChwUBzsjc2sVSdj-k03myPQzhz-XuLf7O2mYt5WciXpHnASrgG_A==) (English) and/or [ColoradoHablemosdeArmas.com](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001kNLfoATvR7Rh6p-4nl6yoyJvnDuyvXl8tRPS647meHAkKKVsSlftpeK8DKZZYfWO--SF3LIClLLAAxSttkAbK2ECI_SiEz34K8kXL25ob9R6wd3c4Z5xbIP7xrpQrk3i6Djxo3YdqxG7fH3MoIeKuMVrrwjpQmDxwQ9cVPxopXw=&c=mxx3LxnL-QD12IfNBn5iC1Sdln7KE1YMuCYQEBeBwhHQ94GEwE6GBg==&ch=mSChwUBzsjc2sVSdj-k03myPQzhz-XuLf7O2mYt5WciXpHnASrgG_A==) (En Español) with friends and family.

**Note:** The above is from the quarterly newsletter of the Colorado Office of Gun Violence Prevention. To sign up to receive OGVP's newsletter: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/n3oaDuF/ogvp>

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**Action Item: Supporting the Proposed ATF Rule**

A new rule has been proposed by the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) that would close a major loophole in the current Federal background check system. The proposed rule would broaden and clarify the definition of who is “engaged in the business” of dealing in firearms and would therefore be required to obtain a federal firearms license (FFL) and perform background checks. The broader definition would include "all persons who devote time, attention, and labor to dealing in firearms … to predominantly earn a profit through the repetitive purchase and sale of firearms.”  This new definition targets occasional sellers of firearms, who tend to be at gun shows and on-line but are not federally licensed and do not conduct background checks. Guns sold without background checks can fall into dangerous hands, including convicted felons, domestic abusers, gun traffickers, and other prohibited persons, with no questions asked. Colorado closed this loophole in 2000 but is surrounded by states that haven’t.

Please submit your individual comments supporting this proposed rule. **We have until December 7, 2023**.

For a summary and full text of the proposed rule and instructions for submitting comments:

<https://www.regulations.gov/document/ATF-2023-0002-0001>

**Two excellent sources of talking points:**

Everytown for Gun Safety:

<https://secure.everyaction.com/w8uoozjzqEy5nhCc9OR1aA2?sourceid=1000305>

Colorado Ceasefire:

1)    Three of the four guns used in the Columbine massacre were purchased at a gun show.  The buyer testified that she deliberately sought out tables indicating “no background check required” as she did not want a record of her purchases.
2)    Coloradans overwhelmingly (70%) approved closing the gun show loophole in 2000.
3)    Despite strong arguments in 2000 that gun shows would disappear because of the law closing the loophole, gun shows continue to flourish in Colorado.
4)    We need to staunch the flow of guns to prohibited buyers. Background checks are the first step in doing that.
5)    There are hundreds of thousands of unlicensed gun sellers, and their numbers are increasing, according to ATF director Steve Dettelbach.
6)    One in five gun sales are completed without a background check.
7)    Nearly 90% of Americans support background checks.
8)    At a gun show, having unlicensed sellers next to federally licensed sellers is like boarding a plane where some people had to go through security and others skipped it entirely.
9)    Guns that don’t go through background checks are therefore unaccompanied by sales records that could later be used in crime gun tracing.
10)    In addition to background checks and record keeping, bringing all those engaged in the business of selling firearms for a profit increases compliance with other ATF safety rules, thereby improving public safety.

**It's crucial that everyone in the gun violence prevention community submit a comment in support of this new rule.**

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**Report on Gun Violence in Colorado Released by CFCU**

In 2022, a total of 2,685 people in Colorado were injured or killed with firearms, an average of more than 7 people a day. In that year, firearms were the leading cause of death among both Colorado’s children aged 5-14 and older teens/young adults aged 15-24. These are just a few of the findings from CFCU’s recently released report, *Profile of Gun Violence in Colorado 2023*, on the prevalence, trends, and demographics of gun violence in the state. The data in the report are from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and the CDC.

The public health approach to gun violence and its prevention adopted by CFCU several years ago means starting with data and using this information to help inform prevention and intervention strategies and advocacy. We hope this report will be useful to you in your efforts to address gun violence. You can find a link to the report on CFCU’s website on the homepage and in the Resources section: <cfcu-co.org>.