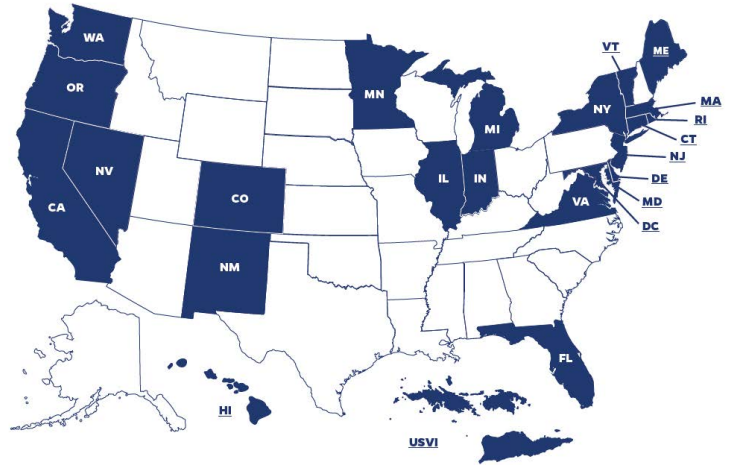


The National Extreme Risk Protection Order Resource Center (ERC)

WHAT ARE EXTREME RISK PROTECTION ORDERS (ERPOs)?

An ERPO is a civil court order that temporarily restricts firearm access for an individual who is behaving dangerously or presents a high risk of harm to self or others. By authorizing the temporary removal of firearms and prohibiting the individual from purchasing, possessing, or accessing firearms while the order is in effect, ERPOs provide a critical opportunity to intervene to prevent gun violence, including mass violence, homicide, and suicide.

- As of February 2026, **22 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands have enacted ERPO laws.** Though the names of these laws and the laws themselves vary by state, the process is similar for most petitioners. In all states, ERPOs are civil, not criminal, court orders. However, violation of an ERPO law may be a criminal offense depending on state law.
- ERPO laws are based on domestic violence protection order laws, which have been in place in all 50 states for decades and are a well-established tool for protecting people experiencing intimate partner violence.
- [Research has shown how ERPOs have been used in response to threats of suicide and interpersonal violence, including mass shootings.](#)¹
- [Research from four ERPO states estimates that one life is saved per every 17-23 ERPOs issued and served.](#)²



ERPO laws exist in the District of Columbia (DC), the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI) and the following states: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and Washington.

HOW CAN THE ERC HELP?

- Development and dissemination of trainings for ERPO stakeholders;
- Support for states and local jurisdictions with existing ERPO laws to implement ERPO programs;
- Facilitation of peer-to-peer engagement with model ERPO learning sites;
- Delivery of presentations and webinars to advance states' and localities' knowledge on key ERPO topics.

FREE ERC TRAININGS AVAILABLE

- The ERC can present to various ERPO implementer groups for free, including law enforcement, judicial officers, attorneys, clinicians, and social service providers;
- Trainings are customized to meet the needs of the audience and include overviews of ERPO, jurisdiction and state-specific information, promising practices for implementation, interactive discussion of hypotheticals, data on usage of ERPO, and examples of ERPO usage.

DUE PROCESS PROTECTIONS

The Bipartisan Safer Communities Act requires that ERPO programs funded through the Byrne SCIP program include the following due process rights:

- Notice;
- An in-person hearing;
- An unbiased adjudicator;
- Know opposing evidence;
- Confront adverse witnesses;
- Be represented by counsel at no expense to the government;
- Heightened evidentiary standards and proof which mean not less than the protections afforded to a similarly situated litigant;
- Penalties for abuse of the program.



The ERC closely monitors ERPO cases and rulings on ERPO and due process to ensure that it is aware of any changes in the law that may impact ERPO implementation.

WHAT IS BYRNE SCIP?

The Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) was signed into law in June of 2022 with the goal of reducing fire-arm-related violence. As authorized by the BSCA, the Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (Byrne SCIP) provides formula funds to implement state crisis intervention court proceedings and related programs or initiatives, including, but not limited to, extreme risk protection order (ERPO) programs that work to keep guns out of the hands of those who pose a threat to themselves or others, mental health courts, drug courts, and veterans treatment courts. Administered by BJA, funding can be used to implement and support a broad range of activities.

BJA selected three distinct training and technical assistance (TTA) providers to help Byrne SCIP recipients and their subrecipients meet the goals and objectives of their grant funded initiatives. The three TTA providers are:

1. [The National Criminal Justice Association \(NCJA\)](https://www.ncja.org/)³
2. [The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges \(NCJFCJ\)](https://www.ncjfcj.org/)⁴
3. [The Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Violence Solutions, who created the National ERPO Resource Center \(ERC\)](https://www.erc.org/)⁵

SCAN ME



Scan the QR code to visit our [Training & Technical Assistance Request Form](#). For more assistance or to request a training, email us at erpo@jhu.edu or visit erpo.org.

FOOTNOTES

1 See: <https://publichealth.jhu.edu/sites/default/files/2025-09/Overview-of-ERPO-Research-September-2025.pdf>

2 Swanson JW, Zeoli AM, Frattaroli S, Betz M, Easter M, Kapoor R, Knoepke C, Noriko M, Pear VA, Rowhani-Rahbar A, Schleimer JP, and Wintemute GJ. "Suicide Prevention Effects of Extreme Risk Protection Order Laws in Four States." *Journal of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law*. 2024. <https://jaapl.org/content/early/2024/08/20/JAAPL.240056-24>

3 NCJA: <https://www.ncja.org/>

4 NCJFCJ: <https://www.ncjfcj.org/>

5 ERC: www.ERPO.org