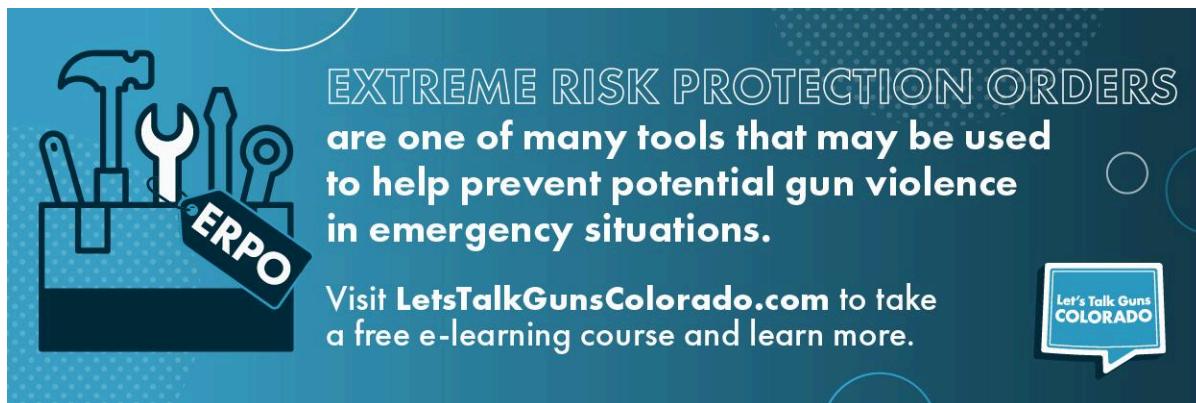


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E-Newsletter Content

Extreme Risk Protection Orders: A Life-Saving Option in Times of Crisis

Extreme Risk Protection Orders, or “ERPOs,” are designed to prevent gun violence and suicides by temporarily restricting an individual’s access to firearms during a time of crisis when they may pose a safety risk to themselves or others. These orders are a temporary civil court order issued by a judge that removes firearms from the individual’s possession and restricts their ability to purchase new ones.

A Temporary ERPO (TERPO) can be issued for up to 14 days. After a full court hearing, a longer-term ERPO can extend firearm restrictions for up to 364 days.

If someone appears to be in crisis and any, or a combination, of the following risk factors are present, consider filing an ERPO, especially when voluntary efforts have not been effective:

- Suicidal ideation or plans to end their life
- Threats of violence through words, behavior, or writing
- History of violent offenses
- Misuse of drugs or alcohol
- Patterns of abusive or coercive behavior in relationships
- Easy access to firearms or signs of trying to obtain one

Restricting firearm access during a crisis creates space for safety and intervention. It also gives professionals time to reassess treatment or support plans without added risk.

To access free ERPO training materials and other resources, visit LetsTalkGunsColorado.com.

