

EXTREME RISK PROTECTION ORDERS

RCW 7.105

2025



WHAT IS AN ERPO?

An Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO) is a civil court order available in Washington State. ERPOs are issued when there's reasonable cause to believe a person is at significant risk of harming themselves or others if they have access to firearms. A judicial officer will review the petition to see if the situation meets the legal standard for an ERPO.

Importantly, ERPOs can apply to both adults and minors, so they're a resource for addressing firearm injury risk across all age groups.

WHAT DOES AN ERPO DO?



If granted, requires immediate temporary removal of firearms, Concealed Pistol License(s) and prohibits obtaining others.



The person must immediately turn their firearms and CPLs over to law enforcement to hold while the order is in place.



The person cannot own, possess, receive, access, or purchase firearms, including CPL(s), for one year.



The judge may order the person to do a behavioral health evaluation.



If risks continue, the petitioner can request a renewal. The ERPO recipient is notified and can attend the hearing.

AN ERPO DOES NOT:



Stop the person from contacting you or coming to your home, or other personal restraints.



Filing an ERPO does not initiate criminal charges; however, the behaviors prompting the ERPO may do so.

WHEN TO CONSIDER AN ERPO

- Threats to harm self / Threats of suicide
- Threats to harm others / Threats of homicide
- Behaviors presenting imminent threat to self/others
- Pattern of acts/threats of violence in last 12 months
- Reckless use, display, or brandishing a firearm
- Malicious harassment or stalking behaviors
- Threats to workplaces, schools, or mass violence
- Owns, discussed buying, or recently purchased a firearm amid risk factors
- Refer to RCW 7.105.215 for a full list of factors

WHO CAN APPLY FOR AN ERPO?

- Current or former spouse / domestic partner
- Parent of a child in common
- Current or former cohabitant as an intimate partner
- Current or former dating partner
- Parent or child
- Stepparent or stepchild
- Blood relation other than parent or child
- In-laws
- Current or former roommates
- Current or former legal guardian
- Law Enforcement Officers and Agencies

WHERE TO FILE A PETITION

- Contact your local court for filing instructions
- Court clerks can provide forms
- Forms used statewide can also be found here: <https://www.courts.wa.gov/forms/>

For ERPO information or training, contact:

The ERPO Team in the Regional Domestic Violence Firearms Enforcement Unit at the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office:



ERPO@kingcounty.gov