

I. Overview

Through funding provided by the Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (SCIP), the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission (WSCJTC) developed a Comprehensive Model Policy Desk Reference for Law Enforcement. This resource is designed to support agencies across Washington State in the consistent, effective, and constitutionally sound implementation and enforcement of firearm relinquishment laws. This Model Policy resource is intended to serve as a practical guide for law enforcement, to align procedures with best practices, statutory requirements, and due process protections.

II. Purpose of the Grant

The SCIP grant was secured to address inconsistencies and gaps in the implementation and enforcement of firearm-related protection orders, including Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPOs) and Orders to Surrender & Prohibit Weapons (OTSPWs). The Model Policy desk reference was created to:

- Provide clear, actionable guidance regarding best practices for law enforcement agencies.
- Promote statewide consistency and effectiveness in implementation of firearm relinquishment procedures to improve harm reduction outcomes.
- Ensure due process and protection of individual rights.
- Support training of law enforcement officers and prosecutors.

III. Strategic Objectives

The Model Policy desk reference is part of a broader strategy to:

- Educate law enforcement and system partners on risk indicators and opportunities for more rapid intervention to prevent harm.
- Standardize documentation, storage, tracking, and return of relinquished firearms.
- Enhance public understanding of protection orders and crisis intervention tools.
- Foster collaboration among local, tribal, and state agencies.
- Inform future policy development through reporting, data collection, evaluation, and partner input.

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Participating Agencies:

Police Departments:

Vancouver
Clyde Hill (Records)
Pacifica (Records)
Tacoma

Sheriff's Departments:

Okanogan
Thurston
Whitman
King

Spokane
Arlington
Bellingham (Records)
Wenatchee
Everett
Pullman
Airway Heights
Walla Walla
Twisp
Bothell
Winthrop
Yakima

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Organizations:

Washington Association of Sheriff's & Police Chiefs
Fraternal Order of Police
Washington Council of Police & Sheriff's
Lexipol
Washington Cities Insurance Authority
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