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October 24, 2025

Ms. Cara L. Jenkins
Legislative Counsel
1021 O Street, Suite 3210
Sacramento, California 95814

Ms. Erika Contreras
Secretary of the Senate
State Capitol, Room 305
Sacramento, California 95814

Ms. Sue Parker
Chief Clerk of the Assembly
State Capitol, Room 319
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: *Report on the Firearms Relinquishment Grant Program for 2024–25*, as required under the Budget Act of 2022

Dear Ms. Jenkins, Ms. Contreras, and Ms. Parker:

Under provision 18 of item 0250-001-0001 of the Budget Act of 2022 (Stats. 2022, ch. 45), the Judicial Council is submitting *Report on the Firearms Relinquishment Grant Program for 2024–25.*

If you have any questions related to this report, please contact Francine Byrne, Director, Judicial Council Criminal Justice Services, at 415-865-8069 or francine.byrne@jud.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Michelle Curran
Administrative Director
Judicial Council

MC/FB/jl
Enclosures
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Emelyn Rodriguez, General Counsel, Office of Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas
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MS. MICHELLE CURRAN
Administrative Director
Judicial Council

Report title: *Report on the Firearms Relinquishment Grant Program for 2024–25*

Statutory citation: Budget Act of 2022 (Stats. 2022, ch. 45)

Date of report: October 24, 2025

The Judicial Council has submitted a report to the Legislature in accordance with provision 18 of item 0250-001-0001 of the Budget Act of 2022 (Stats. 2022, ch. 45).

The following summary of the report is provided under the requirements of Government Code section 9795.

In 2022, the Legislature provided one-time funding to the Judicial Council to support court-based firearm relinquishment programs. Each year by October 1, the council must provide a report that specifies how funding has been allocated and has or will be used, the structure of each court program, the roles and responsibilities of the court and law enforcement partners, challenges faced or anticipated, and key data outcomes for each court.

In total, the 13 court-based programs were able to successfully recover over 3,200 firearms from over 900 prohibited individuals. Most relinquishment efforts were conducted for civil domestic violence and civil harassment restraining orders. A summary and highlights of each program are provided in the full report.

The full report can be accessed at *www.courts.ca.gov/7466.htm*.

A printed copy of the report may be obtained by calling 415-865-8994 or emailing crimjusticeoffice@jud.ca.gov.

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October 24, 2025

Report on the Firearms Relinquishment Grant Program for 2024–25

Report to the Legislature under the Budget Act of 2022 (Assem. Bill 178; Stats. 2022, ch. 45)

Judicial Council *of* California

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Background

As part of the Budget Act of 2022 (Assem. Bill 178; Stats. 2022, ch. 45), the Legislature appropriated $40 million in one-time funding to the Judicial Council to support court-based firearm relinquishment programs. The purpose of the program is to "ensure the consistent and safe removal of firearms from individuals who become prohibited from owning or possessing firearms and ammunition pursuant to court order."[1]

This funding established on a one-time basis the first State Budget–funded firearms relinquishment program specifically for the courts in California. Under this program, courts and law enforcement work to ensure that firearms are relinquished by individuals who have become prohibited and currently own firearms. Since September 2022, 13 courts were awarded funding in three separate request-for-proposal cycles to support their firearm relinquishment programs. A total of $28.5 million was allocated to these programs. In 2024, $9.2 million of unallocated program funding reverted back to the state to assist with the statewide budget deficit. The remaining funds were used by the Judicial Council for program implementation activities including contracting, data collection and reporting, training and technical assistance, and to support a program evaluation being conducted by the University of California, Davis, as required in the Budget Act of 2022.[2]

This report provides background on the Firearms Relinquishment Grant, presents a brief overview of relinquishment in California, identifies key findings from the project, summarizes grantee and Judicial Council allocations and program activities, and reports on the mandated statistics for April 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025.

Eligibility

The Budget Act of 2022 provided the following criteria and priority areas for applicant courts:

- Each court must contract with at least one law enforcement agency located within the county for activities that cannot reasonably and safely be conducted by the court.
- At least 30 percent of the funding allocated to each court must be directed to law enforcement through contracts with the court.

[1] Stats. 2022, ch. 45, item 0250-001-0001, provision 11, *leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB178* (as of Sept. 18, 2025).

[2] In February 2023, seven courts were awarded funding in Cycle 1. In July 2023, one court was awarded funding in Cycle 2. In December 2024, six courts were awarded funding in Cycle 3; however, one court withdrew from the program prior to the allocation of the funding. To encourage full utilization of program funds, the Judicial Council is identifying unspent project funds and is in the process of reallocating funding to awardee courts with demonstrated program need.

- The selection process must consider statewide diversity in geographic location and court size.
- Priority must be given to firearm relinquishment activities related to domestic violence restraining orders, gun violence restraining orders, or any other civil court order.
- Priority must be given to courts with higher numbers of requests for domestic violence restraining orders or gun violence restraining orders filed.[3]

For this reporting period (April 1, 2024–March 31, 2025), participating courts focused primarily on prohibitions and relinquishment processes in civil restraining order cases, except Sacramento, where a program was funded in late 2024 to focus on criminal protective order prohibitions. Although all awarded court programs are described, this report focuses mainly on activities and outcomes of the courts awarded in the first two funding cycles since the programs funded in late 2024 are still in nascent stages of implementation.

Overview of Firearms Relinquishment in California in Civil Cases

The presence of firearms is a significant risk factor in domestic violence cases and poses danger for protected parties, law enforcement, and the public. In intimate partner matters, the presence of a firearm makes it five times more likely a female victim will be killed by her perpetrator.[4] The California Department of Justice (CA DOJ) reported in 2024 that

> [f]rom 2013-2022, at least 51% of female homicide victims in California were killed by a current or former intimate partner or family member. In cases where the victim-offender relationship was reported (including incidents where the suspected offender was identified as a stranger), nearly two-thirds (66%) of female homicide victims in California were killed by a current or former intimate partner or family member.[5]

The CA DOJ also noted that:

> Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, California has experienced substantial increases in domestic violence-related calls for law enforcement assistance involving reported use or threatened use of firearms. The number of domestic

[3] *Id*., provision 13.

[4] J. C. Campbell et al., "Risk Factors for Femicide in Abusive Relationships: Results From a Multisite Case Control Study," *American Journal of Public Health* 93, no.7 (2003): 1089–1097.

[5] California Department of Justice, Office of Gun Violence Prevention, *Data Report: Domestic Violence Involving Firearms in California* (Nov. 2023), pp. 31–32, *oag.ca.gov/system/files/attachments/press-docs/OGVP%20Report%20-%20Domestic%20Violence%20%26%20Firearms%20in%20CA.pdfoag.ca.gov/system/files/attachments/press-docs/OGVP%20Report%20-%20Domestic%20Violence%20%26%20Firearms%20in%20CA.pdf* (as of Sept. 18, 2025).

> violence calls involving firearms increased by 80% between 2019 and 2021 to the highest number reported in nearly three-decades.[6]

Policymakers have responded to this research with a significant number of legislative changes designed to reduce risk and increase safety through firearm prohibitions in matters where courts have determined a restraining or protective order is appropriate. Respondents in civil restraining order matters and defendants in criminal cases may become prohibited from owning, possessing, purchasing, or having within their control firearms and ammunition at various points in case proceedings.[7] Additionally, individuals may become prohibited in a variety of other circumstances under state or federal law.[8] In most instances, once a person becomes prohibited, there is a specified timeframe for them to either store or sell any currently owned firearms with law enforcement or a licensed firearms dealer. This is generally referred to as "relinquishment" in California. Law enforcement may also remove firearms at the scene of an incident, when serving an order, or under other circumstances, as specified in statute.

In addition to statutory guidance, in the mid-2000s, the Judicial Council adopted two rules of court addressing firearms relinquishment processes in the criminal domestic violence context (rule 4.700) and for civil domestic violence restraining orders (rule 5.495). Rule 5.495 was repealed when Senate Bill 320 (Stats. 2021, ch. 685)[9] was enacted because that bill included the requirements of the rule of court and provided additional guidance for the courts, law enforcement, and prosecuting agencies. All civil and criminal protective orders have automatically included firearm and ammunition prohibitions in California for decades; in 2014, the state enacted the first extreme risk protection order allowing parties and law enforcement to petition for a gun violence restraining order (GVRO), a framework that courts began implementing when it became effective in 2016. However, relinquishment or enforcement and follow-up to ensure those who are prohibited comply with the restrictions requires resources, coordination, and protocols and procedures at the local and state levels for each of these case types.

In civil restraining orders, the restrained person must surrender any firearms or ammunition they have to a licensed gun dealer or law enforcement within 24 hours of becoming prohibited. State law further requires the restrained person to submit proof to the court and law enforcement

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[6] *Id.,* at p. 8.

[7] In California, a restraining order or protective order is a court order that restricts a person from engaging in specific actions, such as contacting or coming within a certain distance of another individual (for those cases that include a protected party; GVROs do not include protected parties). Criminal protective orders and civil restraining orders in California automatically include a firearm restriction that prohibits the restrained person from owning or having firearms and ammunition unless the restrained party is exempt from the prohibition as specified under statute. See Family Code section 6389, for example.

[8] Available at *oag.ca.gov/system/files/media/Firearms-Prohibited-Categories.pdf* (as of Sept. 18, 2025).

[9] Available at *leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB320* (as of Sept. 18, 2025).

24 hours after storing or selling their firearms indicating that they have complied.[10] Because a respondent may become prohibited under an emergency protective order (EPO-001 or EPO-002), a temporary restraining order (TRO), or an order after hearing (OAH), relinquishment may occur at various times depending on the particular order the court has issued. Defendants subject to criminal protective orders are also prohibited from having firearms and ammunition while the order is in place and are similarly required to sell or store firearms within 24 hours of becoming prohibited and to provide a receipt under Code of Civil Procedure section 527.9 and Penal Code section 136.2.

This funding has allowed courts to provide restrained persons with better information on how to properly relinquish firearms they own or have in their possession, provided critical information to judicial decision-makers about firearm ownership and existing prohibitions, supported court efforts to review cases for compliance and report noncompliance to law enforcement and prosecuting agencies as may be required, and allowed law enforcement to follow up and investigate when an individual is found to have any firearms in violation of the court's orders. While the issues the relevant legislative policies seek to address are ongoing, this one-time funding creates some challenges for key stakeholders relying on these resources; at the same time, it highlights the importance of investing state resources in this area to support implementation by courts and law enforcement.

Reporting Requirements

The Judicial Council is required to submit an annual report on the program to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee by October 1 for fiscal years 2022–23, 2023–24, and 2024–25. The report must specifically contain the following:

- How the funding has been allocated;
- How the funding has or will be used by each court;
- The structure of the program at each court;
- The roles and responsibilities of the court and its contractors;
- Any implementation challenges or other challenges faced; and
- Key data outcomes by each court, including the following:

[10] Courts typically provide guidance to litigants on these procedures. For example, see *DV-800 INFO*: *courts.ca.gov/sites/default/files/courts/default/2024-11/dv800info.pdf* (as of Oct. 17, 2025). There is also this example from San Francisco Superior Court: *sf.courts.ca.gov/system/files/forms-and-filings/how-turn-firearms-ammunition.pdf* (as of Sept. 18, 2025).

- Number of filings (cases) addressed, by type of order;
- Number of firearm-related background checks conducted;[11]
- Range and average number of days from the firearm and ammunition prohibition by the court to removing or confirming relinquishment;[12]
- Number of individuals who relinquish firearms voluntarily (understood to mean without additional law enforcement follow-up after becoming prohibited);
- Number of firearms relinquished to law enforcement and licensed gun dealers; and
- Number of firearms removed by law enforcement and their disposition.[13]

Relevant Policy Guidance: SB 320

Courts and law enforcement funded through this effort and handling civil domestic violence restraining order (DVRO) matters were guided by SB 320, which, for the first time, created statutory mandates for providing local information on how to comply with relinquishment procedures, requirements for reviewing DVRO cases for compliance, and reporting noncompliance to law enforcement and prosecuting agencies. Effective January 1, 2026, similar procedures are required for civil and criminal restraining orders under Senate Bill 899 (Stats. 2024, ch. 544).[14] The Judicial Council developed an infographic setting out the process for courts statewide.

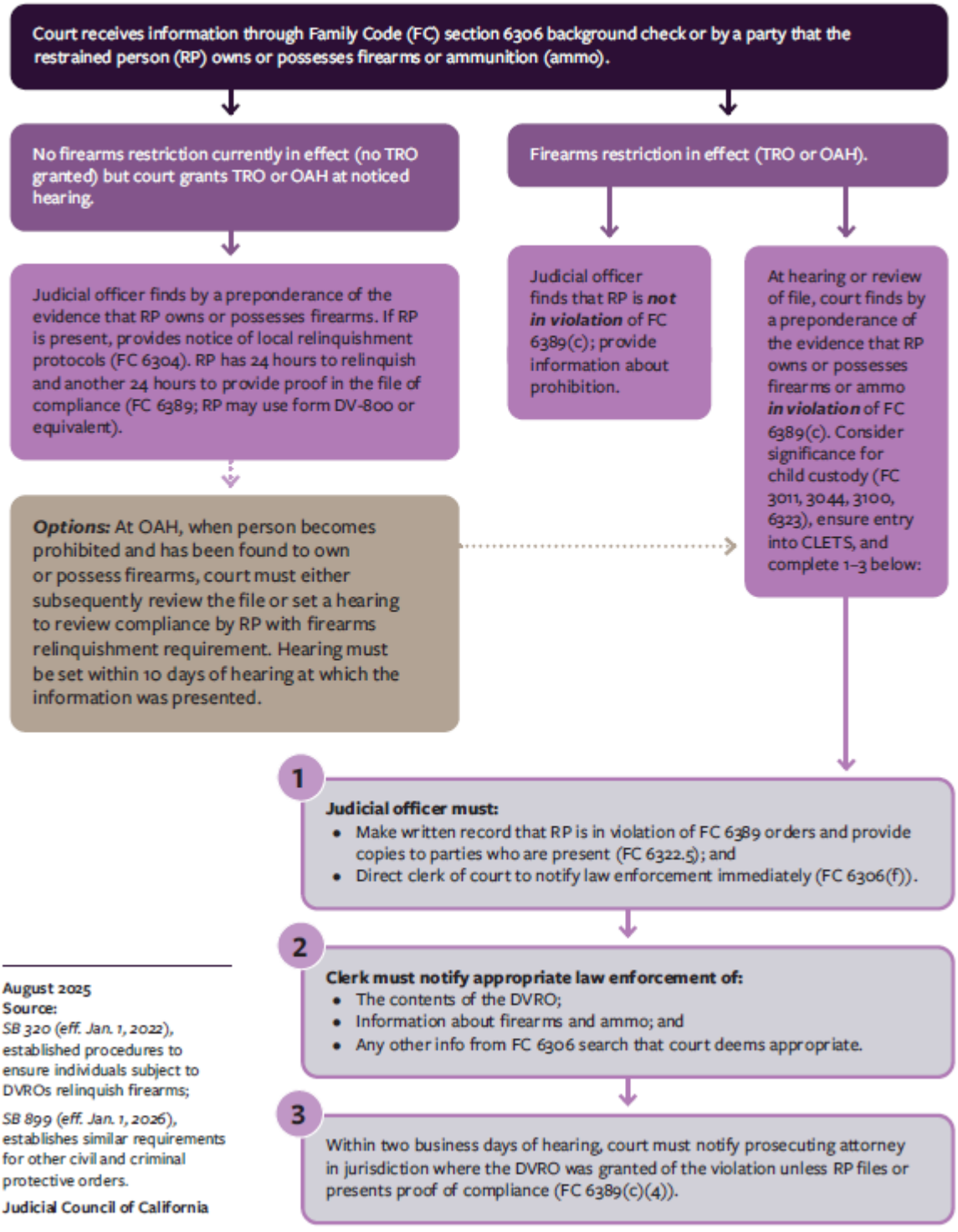
[11] This number includes cases in which there were multiple background checks conducted for the same individual, as reported by the court and law enforcement. This results in some counties having a higher number of background checks conducted than cases addressed. These counties are Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Ventura.

[12] The range and average are calculated based on the first relinquishment when the date of relinquishment occurred after the date of order. A small number of cases (35) involved multiple relinquishment dates in certain matters with multiple firearms. Counties with cases that fall into this category are Los Angeles, Modoc, Orange, San Diego, San Francisco, Santa Clara, and Ventura.

[13] Programs were able to report on the number of firearms removed by law enforcement; however, the disposition of these firearms—whether they were sold, stored, or destroyed—is not being reported as courts do not consistently receive this information and disposition may change over time.

[14] Available at *leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240SB899* (as of Sept. 18, 2025).

Firearm Prohibitions: DVRO Proceedings



August 2025
Source:
SB 320 (eff. Jan. 1, 2022), established procedures to ensure individuals subject to DVROs relinquish firearms;
SB 899 (eff. Jan. 1, 2026), establishes similar requirements for other civil and criminal protective orders.

Judicial Council of California

As noted on the chart, Family Code section 6306 plays a significant role in both DVRO and GVRO cases. Under this code section, courts hearing those matters receive information from California's Automated Firearms System (AFS)[15] regarding firearm ownership prior to issuing an order after hearing. Until January 1, 2025, the requirement to obtain that information (and information from other data systems listed in the statute) was limited to courts identified as having specific funding to conduct these checks (they may be run by the court or law enforcement). Assembly Bill 3083 (Stats. 2024, ch. 541),[16] effective January 1, 2025, amended Family Code 6306 to require the AFS check in all specified case types (DVRO and GVRO matters). While information about firearm ownership may also be provided by the parties in these cases, this search provides courts with critical information for adjudicating firearm-prohibiting matters and implementing SB 320 and related mandates.

Key Findings

Each year in California, courts handle a high volume of DVROs. In 2023, CA DOJ reported more than 90,000 DVROs issued.[17] The courts also handle nearly 200,000 other firearm-prohibiting orders, including 95,186 criminal protective orders.[18] This caseload reflects a significant amount of work for each county, and in most of these civil cases, the parties are self-represented. Additionally, serving orders (providing notice) is a significant challenge for parties and law enforcement; parties must have notice and an opportunity to be heard for cases to proceed, and firearm prohibitions only become effective once they are served. Orders must also be entered into the Department of Justice's California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS) in a timely fashion to ensure the order can be enforced and to prevent unlawful purchases of firearms statewide and nationally. This funding and related efforts to support the handling of these cases are critical given the volume, complexity, and risk involved.

During this reporting period (April 1, 2024–March 31, 2025),[19] courts and law enforcement funded through this grant program adjudicated or handled more than 4,700 cases that generally included multiple hearings and law enforcement involvement. Of those cases, subsets included people who were already prohibited from having firearms, never owned or had access to firearms, or had firearms and became prohibited at some point in the current or a related

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[15] The Automated Firearms System (AFS) is maintained by CA DOJ to track the serial number of every firearm owned by government agencies, obtained by law enforcement (e.g., through seizure, destroyed, held in evidence, reported stolen, or recovered), voluntarily recorded, or handled via transaction by licensed gun dealers. Since 2014, all new legally acquired firearms are entered into the system. See *oag.ca.gov/system/files/media/2024-apps-report.pdf* (as of Sept. 18, 2025).

[16] See *leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB3083* (as of Sept. 18, 2025).

[17] California Department of Justice, Office of Gun Violence Prevention, *Pathways to Safety: California's Nine Court Protection Orders to Prevent Gun Violence* (June 2024), p. 40, *oag.ca.gov/system/files/media/ogvp-restraining-order-report-062024.pdf* (as of Sept. 18, 2025).

[18] *Id.,* at p. 73. A criminal protective order in California is a court order issued in a criminal case that prohibits the defendant from having contact with a victim or witness.

[19] Modoc's data was not received in time for inclusion in the previous legislative report, so all their data going back to February 2023, is included in this report.

proceeding. Over 900 of the cases handled during this time period resulted in the prohibited respondent or defendant relinquishing firearms. Over 3,200 firearms were relinquished during this reporting period, an average of three firearms per case for every individual required to comply: 2,002 to law enforcement and 1,242 to licensed gun dealers. A summary of relinquishment data is provided in Appendix 1.

Courts reported instances of cases adjudicated or handled during the reporting period in which prohibited persons relinquished their firearms to law enforcement or a licensed firearms dealer *prior to* the order after hearing being granted or because law enforcement seized currently owned firearms prior to the order being granted. This may have occurred when law enforcement arrived at a scene for a 911 call, because of an arrest, or because of an emergency protective order, for example.

Although the number of firearms relinquished is significant, an arguably more important component of this program was that it supported local jurisdiction's collaborative efforts to institute sound relinquishment policies and procedures that will be used beyond the timeframe of this grant. Relevant statutes and rules of court set forth statewide policy for firearms prohibitions and relinquishment processes; however, local needs and resources inform implementation. Each of the funded programs proposed different approaches to using the allocated funds as reported by jurisdiction in this report. Despite the differences in approaches, some important and consistent themes have emerged, providing helpful information for other California jurisdictions seeking to implement promising practices in this area. Key overarching findings include:

- When the court provides relevant information about firearm prohibitions and how to comply by relinquishing and providing proof to the court, a substantial number of prohibited people comply with firearm relinquishment requirements without significant court or law enforcement intervention, often before the order after hearing and close to the time of prohibition, which reduces risk.

- Funding has been crucial in providing opportunities for courts to develop local protocols and procedures to support effective implementation of relinquishment policies and is needed to support ongoing implementation in this area.

- Because prohibited individuals may be separated from their firearms at multiple points in a given case (for example, a seizure of firearms might occur at an arrest, or an individual may relinquish some firearms upon being served with the order but have more to relinquish once the restraining order is in place after a hearing), there are significant challenges in gathering data and documenting relinquishment.

- California courts benefit enormously from information that can be accessed through AFS about registered firearm ownership, which assists with ensuring compliance; however, increasingly, unregistered firearms that are hard to trace make ensuring relinquishment and enforcement difficult.

- Funded programs have been able to obtain documentation and develop procedures to follow up on cases where individuals had not previously relinquished or provided information that their previously owned firearms were no longer in their possession so that AFS could be updated with more current information. This enabled jurisdictions to assist with reducing the numbers in the Armed Prohibited Persons System (APPS) database,[20] thereby saving time and providing courts and law enforcement with more accurate information.

Program Descriptions and Structures

Courts funded represent a variety of small, medium, and large jurisdictions across California. This funding enabled them to design programs to best meet local needs, implement priorities, and manage existing resources. Courts have used funds to implement protocols and procedures in a particular case type, such as DVRO or GVRO, or for use by a specific law enforcement agency in the jurisdiction (sheriff, local police department, or a district attorney's office, for example). Others have used funds to invest in technological solutions or to start a new program versus enhancing an existing one.

Because each county proposed different projects and various ways of using the funds, comparing data between jurisdictions was not always possible and may lead to inaccuracies. Therefore, this report breaks out the various projects by jurisdiction and identifies key findings for each project.

The 13 awarded courts include the following:

Cycle 1:

1. Superior Court of Los Angeles County
2. Superior Court of Modoc County
3. Superior Court of San Diego County
4. Superior Court of San Francisco County
5. Superior Court of San Mateo County
6. Superior Court of Santa Clara County
7. Superior Court of Ventura County

Cycle 2:

8. Superior Court of Orange County

[20] Per the *California Department of Justice, Armed and Prohibited Persons System Report 2024, Annual Report to the Legislature SB 94 Legislative Report Calendar Year 2024*, available at *oag.ca.gov/system/files/media/2024-apps-report.pdf*, as of September 18, 2025, the APPS database contains a list of all known firearm owners in California. Individuals are identified as prohibited via other CA DOJ systems and then flagged within APPS when they are listed as continuing to own firearms (be armed) despite becoming prohibited.

Cycle 3:

9. Superior Court of Alameda County
10. Superior Court of El Dorado County
11. Superior Court of Imperial County
12. Superior Court of Sacramento County
13. Superior Court of Shasta County

Cycle 1

Courts awarded funds as part of Cycle 1 have had the longest amount of time to implement programs and collect data. Funding of these courts was allocated beginning February 1, 2023, and must be expended by April 30, 2027. The allocation amounts are listed in Appendix 1 of this report. Data reported below summarizes activities occurring between April 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025, unless otherwise noted.

1. Superior Court of Los Angeles County

The Superior Court of Los Angeles County, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD), and Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) established a new program to implement SB 320 firearms compliance requirements.

Program structure and milestones

The primary component of this program is to develop a new communication portal that allows the court to quickly notify all 88 law enforcement agencies in Los Angeles County of noncompliance with the firearm relinquishment requirement in DVRO cases as required under SB 320. Once notified, law enforcement is responsible for investigating and enforcing the order. The portal was rolled out in September 2025; funding has supported the extensive work associated with developing the technology, implementing key procedures for notification, and working with the law enforcement agencies across the county.

The program also funds efforts by the LASD and LAPD to effectuate relinquishment. Upon receiving notice by the court that a restrained person is noncompliant (has not relinquished currently owned firearms after becoming prohibited), officers from these agencies investigate and enforce the restraining order by contacting the individual and seizing firearms where possible. These agencies also follow up with prohibited persons appearing in APPS to help reduce the number of people who are listed as owning firearms despite being prohibited.

Additionally, LASD has created a task force to train and oversee relinquishment efforts within the department. LAPD has a specially assigned coordinator who serves as the point of contact for the program. The court has also worked to develop procedures for the required notice to prosecuting agencies by meeting with the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, which has designated two people to coordinate on this program, and the City Attorney's Office for Los Angeles, which plays a critical role locally in establishing a countywide task force to help

implement SB 320. As part of this program, the court participated in the inaugural meeting held earlier this year, where the presiding judge offered opening remarks.[21]

Milestones include:

- Procuring contractors to assist in the development of automation of the clerical processes and a portal for the court to provide the required notice to law enforcement;
- Developing and testing the foundational features of the portal;
- Improving processes within the courts and law enforcement agencies to develop effective relinquishment processes;
- Developing a local form for litigants on how to comply with firearm prohibitions and relinquishment procedures in Los Angeles County; and
- Consistently conducting AFS searches as required by law.

Law enforcement has been receiving information from CA DOJ about cases in the jurisdiction with backlogged or long-standing firearm prohibitions in which individuals have failed to relinquish; as a result, these individuals remain in APPS until DOJ or local law enforcement is able to enforce the prohibition. Some of these situations may be the result of court orders, and others may result from mental health or other prohibitions. This program has allowed greater coordination between those in law enforcement who have or are developing expertise to address backlogged cases and those who are handling the ongoing work of more immediately ensuring relinquishment closer to the time of prohibition.

Key outcomes

For this reporting period of April 2024 through March 2025,[22] a total of 543 firearms were relinquished across 366 cases handled by the court and law enforcement. Nearly all program-funded cases handled or adjudicated by the court were DVROs (263 cases). In all cases reported, a background check was conducted. More individuals relinquished involuntarily (because of noncompliance reports or law enforcement intervention) than voluntarily (upon becoming prohibited and without significant law enforcement or court intervention); this may reflect a significant number of cases during this reporting period that involved law enforcement following up on prohibited persons who had been in APPS for some time.

[21] "LA County Superior Court Quarterly Update & Outlook," *Los Angeles County Bar Association* (July 1, 2025), *lacba.org/?pg=lacba-news&blAction=showEntry&blogEntry=127546*.

[22] Some cases reported during this reporting period were included in the last legislative report.

Additional outcomes are provided below.

Number of filings (cases) addressed, by type of order with subcategory								
Civil Harassment (CH)	Criminal (CR)	Domestic Violence (DV)	Elder Abuse (EA)	Gun Violence (GV)	Juvenile (JV)	Other type of court order that is not a restraining order (NonRO)	Schoolplace Violence (SV)	Workplace Violence (WV)
23	17	263	6	4	3	47	0	3

Metric	Subcategory (if applicable)	Number
Number of firearm-related background checks conducted		627
Range and average number of days from the firearm and ammunition prohibition by the court to removing or confirming relinquishment[1]	Range	0–808
	Average	72
Number of individuals who relinquish firearms voluntarily, understood to mean without additional law enforcement follow-up after becoming prohibited		112
Number of firearms relinquished to law enforcement and licensed gun dealers		543
Number of firearms removed by law enforcement and their disposition		114

[1] Forty-three relinquishments were excluded from calculation of range and average number of days because they occurred prior to prohibition by the court. Most cases reported for Los Angeles County were worked by law enforcement to address a list from CA DOJ of individuals known to be armed and prohibited. The range reflects that many cases law enforcement followed up on from APPS had been out of compliance for some time, and prior to SB 320, the range reported between date of order and date of relinquishment.

2. Superior Court of Modoc County

The Superior Court of Modoc County and the Modoc County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) established a new program to ensure firearms compliance in civil and criminal cases. Funding was almost exclusively provided for MCSO to handle serving orders and reports of noncompliance with the firearm prohibiting order in DVROs.

Program structure and milestones

The court is responsible for creating procedures for reviewing noncompliance with the firearm prohibition in DVRO and criminal cases. MCSO is also responsible for serving all domestic violence restraining orders and criminal protective orders and conducting seizure or relinquishment efforts, as needed. Seizure efforts include obtaining firearms in plain sight or as part of a search (consensual or because of a warrant), and firearms relinquishment might occur at the time of service upon request by the officer.

Milestones include:

- MCSO routinely conducting background checks through AFS for all relevant case types;
- The court conducting significant outreach to other agencies, including domestic violence agencies, to provide information about the program and identify opportunities to collaborate; and
- The court routinely setting hearings to review compliance with firearm restrictions.

Key outcomes

The data set from Modoc covers the period of February 1, 2023, through March 31, 2025. Its data was not reflected in the previous legislative report and thus is reported here. A total of 30 firearms were reported as relinquished from five cases. Most firearms were relinquished voluntarily (20 firearms). Cases included civil harassment, criminal, domestic violence, and workplace violence restraining orders (178 cases), though there were an additional 75 cases adjudicated this reporting period without a case type reported. MCSO ran a firearms background check on 84 cases. Based on how the data was reported, it is possible that these numbers are over- or underestimates, as data reported by the court could not be matched to data reported by MCSO.

All key outcomes are provided below.

Number of filings (cases) addressed, by type of order with subcategory								
Civil Harassment (CH)	Criminal (CR)	Domestic Violence (DV)	Elder Abuse (EA)	Gun Violence (GV)	Juvenile (JV)	Other type of court order that is not a restraining order (NonRO)	Schoolplace Violence (SV)	Workplace Violence (WV)
34	89	54	0	0	0	0	0	1

Metric	Subcategory (if applicable)	Number
Number of firearm-related background checks conducted[1]		84
Range and average number of days from the firearm and ammunition prohibition by the court to removing or confirming relinquishment	Range	NA
	Average	NA
Number of individuals who relinquish firearms voluntarily, understood to mean without additional law enforcement follow-up after becoming prohibited		4
Number of firearms relinquished to law enforcement and licensed gun dealers		30
Number of firearms removed by law enforcement and their disposition		10

[1] It is possible that this number represents an overcount in background checks run. Based on how data was reported, it is unclear if there were cases in which both the court and law enforcement agency ran background checks.

[2] Based on how data was reported, range and average could not be calculated.

NA = not applicable

3. Superior Court of San Diego County

The Superior Court of San Diego County and the San Diego Police Department (SDPD) expanded an existing program to ensure firearms compliance in GVRO cases. The court also worked with the San Diego City Attorney's Office and local law enforcement to ensure firearms compliance in DVRO and other civil restraining order case types.

Program structure and milestones

The court's role in the program is to oversee grant program implementation, provide information about the local process for relinquishing firearms, and notify law enforcement when a restrained party is noncompliant with the firearm prohibition in a DVRO case as required under SB 320. The San Diego City Attorney's Office is responsible for investigating court-referred cases, identifying the agency with jurisdiction over the restrained party, and coordinating law enforcement efforts to effectuate relinquishment. The program plans to extend this process to all civil restraining order case types in 2026. Additionally, SDPD—through its Gun Violence Reduction Unit—is responsible for lending relinquishment expertise to partner agencies, conducting trainings, and serving and enforcing firearm-prohibiting court orders with an emphasis on GVRO case types.

Milestones include:

- Adopting and adding *How to Turn in Firearms, Firearm Parts, and Ammunition* (form SDSC ADM-438)[23] to domestic violence restraining order respondent packets.
- Executing a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the San Diego City Attorney's Office to lead grant-funded relinquishment efforts in coordination with local law enforcement.
- Establishing a regionwide gun relinquishment task force to foster collaboration among partner agencies. An inaugural meeting was held on July 31, 2024. The task force has been meeting on a regular basis and has grown to more than 20 federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies.
- Updating firearm relinquishment training material for public and government agencies and an officer training pamphlet on emergency protective orders and gun violence restraining orders.
- Developing and implementing a coordinated process for responding to notices of noncompliance with a firearm-prohibiting order whereby the San Diego City Attorney's Office staff receive, log, investigate, and coordinate relinquishment operations with local law enforcement. Nine out of 10 law enforcement agencies who have jurisdiction over noncompliance referrals in the San Diego region have formally adopted the process as of March 31, 2025; the remaining agency will be meeting with the task force in October and is expected to join as well.
- Onboarding four full-time, grant-funded police personnel to the SDPD Gun Violence Reduction Unit.

[23] Available at *sdcourt.ca.gov/sites/default/files/SDCOURT/GENERALINFORMATION/FORMS/ADMINFORMS/adm438.pdf* (as of Sept. 18, 2025).

- Executing MOUs with Chula Vista, Coronado, La Mesa, and National City Police Departments to conduct overtime enforcement operations when law enforcement intervention may be necessary.

- Program partners documenting over 460 firearms relinquished by restrained persons during the reporting period.

Key outcomes

Of the cases handled during this period, the court reported 184 individuals who relinquished a total of 465 firearms. Reported cases were primarily comprised of gun violence restraining orders (124 cases), followed by domestic violence restraining orders (60 cases). In all cases, a background check was run on the respondent (person to be restrained) as required by law. Sixty-three percent of cases had firearms relinquished to law enforcement through formal law enforcement intervention, meaning that either the court reported the case to law enforcement for noncompliance or the firearms were seized at the scene of the incident or as part of an arrest or emergency protective order, while 37 percent did so voluntarily to law enforcement or a licensed gun dealer.[24] A total of 465 firearms were relinquished within an average of 10 days, ranging between 0 and 307 days after a court order for which the court had a record.[25]

All key outcomes are provided below.

Number of filings (cases) addressed, by type of order with subcategory								
Civil Harassment (CH)	Criminal (CR)	Domestic Violence (DV)	Elder Abuse (EA)	Gun Violence (GV)	Juvenile (JV)	Other type of court order that is not a restraining order (NonRO)	Schoolplace Violence (SV)	Workplace Violence (WV)
0	0	60	0	124	0	0	0	0

Metric	Subcategory (if applicable)	Number
Number of firearm-related background checks conducted		267

[24] This range is calculated based on the first relinquishment when the date of relinquishment occurred after the date of order. A small number of cases involved individuals who relinquished various firearms at different points in time.

[25] This range is calculated based on the first relinquishment when the date of relinquishment occurred after the date of order. A small number of cases involved individuals who relinquished various firearms at different points in time.

Range and average number of days from the firearm and ammunition prohibition by the court to removing or confirming relinquishment[1]	Range	0–307
	Average	10
Number of individuals who relinquish firearms voluntarily, understood to mean without additional law enforcement follow-up after becoming prohibited		73
Number of firearms relinquished to law enforcement and licensed gun dealers		465
Number of firearms removed by law enforcement and their disposition		239
[1] A total of 39 relinquishments were excluded from calculation of range and average number of days because they occurred prior to prohibition by the court.		

4. Superior Court of San Francisco County

The Superior Court of San Francisco County and the San Francisco Sheriff's Department received funding to establish a new approach to ensuring compliance with firearms prohibitions in domestic violence and other civil restraining order cases in response to SB 320.

Program structure and milestones

The court established internal procedures that include running firearm background checks for every domestic violence restraining order after hearing a case as required by law, conducting compliance review hearings when information is presented that the restrained person may have firearms, and notifying the sheriff's department of noncompliant individuals. The San Francisco Sheriff's Department investigates cases in which the court has found that the restrained person has a firearm in violation of the court order (failed to relinquish within the statutory timeframe).

Milestones include:

- The court conducting firearm background checks through CLETS using the AFS and the San Francisco Criminal Division database daily for family law DVROs and civil harassment;
- The court creating and disseminating two new local forms:
    - *Declaration Regarding Restrained Party's Firearm(s), Firearm Parts, Ammunition, and/or Body Armor* (form SF UFC-0183/CIV-033),[26] to be completed by the person seeking a restraining order to help the court identify possible firearms that the

[26] Available at *sf.courts.ca.gov/system/files/forms-and-filings/frgpdeclarationform_ufc_civ_optional.pdf* (as of Sept. 18, 2025).

restrained person may have, which includes pictures to more specifically identify and describe the types of firearms involved;

- *Findings re Non-compliance With Order to Relinquish Firearm(s), Firearm Parts, Ammunition, and/or Body Armor* (form SF UFC-0184/CIV-034),[27] to be completed by the court to provide information on why a compliance review hearing has been set; and

- The court obtaining information from the sheriff's department to create, publish, and disseminate a new local form *How to Turn in Firearms and Ammunition* (form SFUFC-11.18/CIV-035),[28] which provides specific instructions to restrained persons on how and where to surrender or relinquish prohibited items at the San Francisco's Sheriff's Office and San Francisco Police Department stations.

Key outcomes

Of the cases adjudicated during this period, a total of 283 firearms were reported as relinquished by 52 individuals. Cases comprised domestic violence restraining orders (53 percent), followed by civil harassment (40 percent) and elder abuse (3 percent). Firearms were relinquished more often to law enforcement (93 percent) than a licensed gun dealer (7 percent).

All key outcomes are provided below.

Number of filings (cases) addressed, by type of order with subcategory								
Civil Harassment (CH)	Criminal (CR)	Domestic Violence (DV)	Elder Abuse (EA)	Gun Violence (GV)	Juvenile (JV)	Other type of court order that is not a restraining order (NonRO)	Schoolplace Violence (SV)	Workplace Violence (WV)
894	0	1,191	75	22	0	0	0	57

Metric	Subcategory (if applicable)	Number
Number of firearm-related background checks conducted		2,808

[27] Available at *sf.courts.ca.gov/system/files/forms-and-filings/frgp-findings_0.pdf* (as of Sept. 18, 2025).

[28] Available at *sf.courts.ca.gov/system/files/forms-and-filings/how-turn-firearms-ammunition.pdf* (as of Sept. 18, 2025).

Range and average number of days from the firearm and ammunition prohibition by the court to removing or confirming relinquishment[1]	Range	0–121
	Average	17
Number of individuals who relinquish firearms voluntarily, understood to mean without additional law enforcement follow-up after becoming prohibited		34
Number of firearms relinquished to law enforcement and licensed gun dealers		283
Number of firearms removed by law enforcement and their disposition		37
[1] Seven relinquishments were excluded from calculation of range and average number of days because they occurred prior to prohibition by the court.		

5. Superior Court of San Mateo County

The Superior Court of San Mateo County and the San Mateo County District Attorney's Office received funding to ensure firearms relinquishment in domestic violence, gun violence, and other civil restraining order cases.

Program structure and milestones

The court is responsible for creating and implementing procedures for reviewing firearms compliance in civil restraining order cases, notifying the appropriate law enforcement agency when a restrained person is noncompliant, helping with restraining orders in the self-help center and courtroom, and informing community stakeholders on the program and its progress. The district attorney's office is responsible for investigating court-referred cases when a prohibited person has not complied with the prohibition; obtaining search warrants, as needed; and leading relinquishment efforts, in coordination with other law enforcement agencies throughout the county.

Milestones include starting a new restraining order clinic to allow the attorney to provide a quieter space for litigants and more attention to these cases.

Key outcomes

A total of 233 firearms were reported as relinquished from 85 cases. Most program-funded cases were domestic violence (662 cases), and the court received information from a firearm background check on all cases. All firearms were relinquished voluntarily.

All key outcomes are provided below.

Number of filings (cases) addressed, by type of order with subcategory								
Civil Harassment (CH)	Criminal (CR)	Domestic Violence (DV)	Elder Abuse (EA)	Gun Violence (GV)	Juvenile (JV)	Other type of court order that is not a restraining order (NonRO)	Schoolplace Violence (SV)	Workplace Violence (WV)
171	0	662	52	52	0	0	0	8

Metric	Subcategory (if applicable)	Number
Number of firearm-related background checks conducted		1,608
Range and average number of days from the firearm and ammunition prohibition by the court to removing or confirming relinquishment[1]	Range	0–298
	Average	25
Number of individuals who relinquish firearms voluntarily, understood to mean without additional law enforcement follow-up after becoming prohibited		34
Number of firearms relinquished to law enforcement and licensed gun dealers		233
Number of firearms removed by law enforcement and their disposition		135

[1] Thirty relinquishments were excluded from calculation of range and average number of days because they occurred prior to prohibition by the court.

6. Superior Court of Santa Clara County

The Superior Court of Santa Clara County and the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office received funding to establish a new program to ensure firearms relinquishment in civil and criminal cases and implement current statutory requirements.

Program structure and milestones

The court is responsible for creating and implementing procedures for reviewing firearms compliance in civil and criminal cases, including setting compliance review hearings, notifying the appropriate law enforcement agency when a prohibited person is noncompliant, and

providing assistance with restraining orders in the self-help center. The district attorney's office is responsible for investigating all cases in which a person has been found noncompliant with firearm relinquishment orders, triaging cases to respond to emergent cases first, requesting search warrants when needed, and participating in countywide efforts to increase compliance and reduce gun violence.

Milestones include:

- Court specialist reviewing approximately 400 civil harassment, family domestic violence, gun violence, and criminal cases per month, focusing on identifying individuals possessing firearms and how many firearms were relinquished;
- Assisting court users at the court's restraining order self-help counter for evidence of firearms possession, providing a firearm identification worksheet; and
- Judicial officers and the district attorney's office providing appropriate review of all relevant family, civil, gun violence restraining order, and criminal cases, specifically identifying individuals who are prohibited from possessing firearms and are armed, to ensure public safety and effectuate prohibition and relinquishment requirements.

Key outcomes

A total of 741 firearms were reported as relinquished by 185 individuals. Most program-funded cases were DVROs (48 percent) or GVROs (32 percent), and law enforcement conducted a background check on all these cases. Nearly all individuals relinquished voluntarily (92 percent). Firearms were relinquished more often to law enforcement (61 percent) than a licensed gun dealer (38 percent).

All key outcomes are provided below.

Number of filings (cases) addressed, by type of order with subcategory								
Civil Harassment (CH)	Criminal (CR)	Domestic Violence (DV)	Elder Abuse (EA)	Gun Violence (GV)	Juvenile (JV)	Other type of court order that is not a restraining order (NonRO)	Schoolplace Violence (SV)	Workplace Violence (WV)
10	33	106	0	71	0	0	0	1

Metric	Subcategory (if applicable)	Number
Number of firearm-related background checks conducted		221
Range and average number of days from the firearm and ammunition prohibition by the court to removing or confirming relinquishment[1]	Range	0–1,494
	Average	68
Number of individuals who relinquish firearms voluntarily, understood to mean without additional law enforcement follow-up after becoming prohibited		167
Number of firearms relinquished to law enforcement and licensed gun dealers[2]		741
Number of firearms removed by law enforcement and their disposition		89

[1] Ten relinquishments were excluded from calculation of range and average number of days because they occurred prior to prohibition by the court.

[2] Includes seven other answers, including defendant's mother, transferred, transferred to father, and private party transfer.

7. Superior Court of Ventura County

The Superior Court of Ventura County and the Ventura County District Attorney's Office established a program to ensure firearms relinquishment in domestic violence, gun violence, civil harassment, elder abuse, and workplace violence cases. Goals for the program include developing procedures to review compliance, holding hearings and notifying the district attorney regarding noncompliance, the district attorney's office investigating and enforcing restraining orders with firearms prohibitions, updating the court case management system to track cases, and

the district attorney filing results of investigations with the court in relevant cases (accessible to the court and the parties at the courthouse).

Program structure and milestones

The court is responsible for creating and implementing procedures for reviewing firearms compliance in civil restraining order cases, including setting compliance review hearings, notifying the appropriate law enforcement agency when a restrained person is noncompliant, and informing restrained persons of relinquishment procedures. The district attorney's office is responsible for investigating cases referred by the court, coordinating relinquishment efforts with other law enforcement agencies, and filing the results of its investigation with the court.

Milestones include:

- Court routinely running required background for DVROs and GVROs before hearings;
- Hiring a crime analyst to support the program at the district attorney's office who conducts comprehensive investigations into cases referred by the court for noncompliance; and
- Holding meetings and developing procedures to refine and streamline procedures to be as efficient as possible when sending noncompliance orders and any additional information needed by the district attorney's office so their investigator can commence investigations as quickly as possible.

Key outcomes

A total of 245 firearms were reported as relinquished by 74 individuals. Most program-funded cases were civil domestic violence (81 percent). The vast majority of individuals (93 percent) relinquished voluntarily (without a report of noncompliance or significant law enforcement intervention). Firearms were relinquished to law enforcement (45 percent) and licensed gun dealers (55 percent) within an average of 18 days, ranging between 0 and 205 days after the court order.

All key outcomes are provided below.

Number of filings (cases) addressed, by type of order with subcategory								
Civil Harassment (CH)	Criminal (CR)	Domestic Violence (DV)	Elder Abuse (EA)	Gun Violence (GV)	Juvenile (JV)	Other type of court order that is not a restraining order (NonRO)	Schoolplace Violence (SV)	Workplace Violence (WV)
13	0	122	2	11	0	0	0	2

Metric	Subcategory (if applicable)	Number
Number of firearm-related background checks conducted		166
Range and average number of days from the firearm and ammunition prohibition by the court to removing or confirming relinquishment	Range	0–205
	Average	18
Number of individuals who relinquish firearms voluntarily, understood to mean without additional law enforcement follow-up after becoming prohibited		69
Number of firearms relinquished to law enforcement and licensed gun dealers		245
Number of firearms removed by law enforcement and their disposition		11

Cycle 2

Orange County was the only court awarded during this funding cycle. Funding for this court was allocated beginning July 1, 2023, and must be expended by April 30, 2027. Data reported below summarizes activities occurring between April 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025.

8. Superior Court of Orange County

The Superior Court of Orange County and the Anaheim Police Department established a new program to ensure firearms compliance in civil domestic violence restraining order cases.

Program structure and milestones

The court is responsible for creating procedures for reviewing firearms compliance for domestic violence restraining order cases, notifying the appropriate law enforcement agency when a restrained person is noncompliant, and working with law enforcement and community stakeholders on training related to firearms relinquishment. The Anaheim Police Department is responsible for investigating all cases in its jurisdiction in which the court found a restrained person noncompliant with the firearm restriction.

Milestones include:

- Hosting an Orange County Law Enforcement Summit on May 8, 2024, with an attendance of over 90 law enforcement personnel, which covered firearm relinquishment laws, civil restraining order processes and laws, and an overview of the California Court Protective Order Registry (CCPOR);

- Hosting a virtual training session for Orange County District Attorney's Office staff on June 12, 2024, covering the district attorney's role in implementing SB 320, which was attended by over 100 personnel from the office, including some city attorneys and law enforcement staff;

- Finalizing the manual transfer of the court's 17,000 active protective and restraining order documents from Orange County's Domestic Violence Registry system (WEBDV) to the California Court Protective Order Restraining Order system,[29] which is used by the court and other law enforcement agencies as a compliance tracking tool, officially closing out the project;

- Receiving approval from the Orange County Superior Court Rules and Forms Judicial Committee to use a new local court form, *How to Safely Turn in Your Prohibited Weapons* (form L-3035),[30] in Orange County Family Law court;

[29] This system, also referred to as CCPOR, is a restraining order registry maintained by the Judicial Council. It is a secure system that contains scanned images of restraining orders.

[30] Available at *occourts.org/system/files/general/l3035.pdf* (as of Sept. 18, 2025).

- Creating a guide for judicial officers to use to help them understand and read CLETS printouts for court hearings, which is currently under review by the grant judicial sponsor;

- Reaching an agreement with the Anaheim Police Department to continue participating in the grant until April 2027 due to an extension of the project period; and

- Continuing to increase firearm compliance in domestic violence restraining order cases, with over 680 firearms relinquished during the reporting period.

Key outcomes

A total of 684 firearms were relinquished by 155 individuals. All program-funded cases were civil domestic violence, and the court received background check information as a result of checks in all cases. Nearly all cases (148) reported voluntary relinquishment, most often to a licensed gun dealer. Nine cases reported additional or subsequent relinquishment;[31] these also tended to involve relinquishing to a licensed gun dealer. Relinquishment occurred within an average of 26 days, ranging between 0 and 385 days after the court order.

[31] Six of the 9 cases overlap with the 148 cases reported prior.

All key outcomes are provided below.

Number of filings (cases) addressed, by type of order with subcategory								
Civil Harassment (CH)	Criminal (CR)	Domestic Violence (DV)	Elder Abuse (EA)	Gun Violence (GV)	Juvenile (JV)	Other type of court order that is not a restraining order (NonRO)	Schoolplace Violence (SV)	Workplace Violence (WV)
0	0	155	0	0	0	0	0	0

Metric	Subcategory (if applicable)	Number
Number of firearm-related background checks conducted		224
Range and average number of days from the firearm and ammunition prohibition by the court to removing or confirming relinquishment[1]	Range	0–385
	Average	26
Number of individuals who relinquish firearms voluntarily, understood to mean without additional law enforcement follow-up after becoming prohibited		151
Number of firearms relinquished to law enforcement and licensed gun dealers		684
Number of firearms removed by law enforcement and their disposition		34

[1] Four relinquishments were excluded from calculation of range and average number of days because they occurred prior to prohibition by the court.

Cycle 3

Cycle 3 courts were awarded in late 2024. Funding of these courts was allocated beginning December 1, 2024, and must be expended by April 30, 2028. Data reported below summarizes activities occurring between December 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025. Given the reporting period for this data collection period, many Cycle 3 courts are still in the early implementation phase of establishing their programs and did not have robust quantitative data to report.

9. Superior Court of Alameda County

The Superior Court of Alameda, the Alameda County District Attorney's Office, and the Oakland Police Department established a new program to ensure firearms compliance.

Program structure and milestones

The court has hired a dedicated case manager to monitor firearms compliance for domestic violence and gun violence restraining order cases. The district attorney's office has dedicated staff to coordinate relinquishment activities with other law enforcement agencies; provide education for the court, law enforcement, stakeholders and the public; and update electronic databases to improve case tracking and firearms data. The Oakland Police Department will also update its electronic database to improve case management for firearms cases.

Milestones include:

- Court completing comprehensive review and data collection of restraining order cases filed, compliance hearings, and the number of firearms relinquished; and
- Oakland Police Department working on recovery of firearms, comprehensive review, and field work.

Key outcomes

The court reported 15 cases between January and March 2025. Law enforcement conducted a background check on all cases. Three were for civil harassment, and the remaining 12 were for domestic violence cases. It is unknown how many of these cases involved firearms. Relinquishment occurred in one case with five firearms being relinquished, but the firearms were relinquished after this reporting period and excluded from the metrics below.

Number of filings (cases) addressed, by type of order with subcategory								
Civil Harassment (CH)	Criminal (CR)	Domestic Violence (DV)	Elder Abuse (EA)	Gun Violence (GV)	Juvenile (JV)	Other type of court order that is not a restraining order (NonRO)	Schoolplace Violence (SV)	Workplace Violence (WV)
3	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0

Metric	Subcategory (if applicable)	Number
Number of firearm-related background checks conducted		15
Range and average number of days from the firearm and ammunition prohibition by the court to removing or confirming relinquishment	Range	NA
	Average	NA
Number of individuals who relinquish firearms voluntarily, understood to mean without additional law enforcement follow-up after becoming prohibited		0
Number of firearms relinquished to law enforcement and licensed gun dealers		0
Number of firearms removed by law enforcement and their disposition		0
NA = not applicable		

10. Superior Court of El Dorado County

The Superior Court of El Dorado County, El Dorado District Attorney's Office, and El Dorado Probation Department established a new program to ensure firearms compliance.

Program structure and milestones

The court notifies justice system partners of restraining orders and cases involving noncompliance with firearms prohibitions and holds noncompliance hearings. The district attorney's office has a dedicated investigator to screen domestic violence and gun violence restraining order cases, provide training, lead team meetings, and coordinate relinquishment efforts. The Probation Department uses funding to support relinquishment field operations and other relinquishment initiatives.

Milestones include:

- Establishing and implementing critical cross-functional processes necessary for the review and assessment of criminal protective orders issued and domestic violence restraining orders;
- Conducting comprehensive background checks on restrained individuals;
- Conducting searches at prohibited individuals' residences; and
- Holding meetings with Probation Department and sheriff to streamline processes and procedures and develop field operations.

Key outcomes

Between December 2024 and March 2025, El Dorado reported 154 cases, all of which had a background check completed by law enforcement. Most cases (99) were for criminal protective orders, 35 were for domestic violence cases, 15 were for non–restraining order cases, 4 were for civil harassment cases, and 1 was for an elder abuse case.

Number of filings (cases) addressed, by type of order with subcategory								
Civil Harassment (CH)	Criminal (CR)	Domestic Violence (DV)	Elder Abuse (EA)	Gun Violence (GV)	Juvenile (JV)	Other type of court order that is not a restraining order (NonRO)	Schoolplace Violence (SV)	Workplace Violence (WV)
4	99	35	1	0	0	15	0	0

Metric	Subcategory (if applicable)	Number
Number of firearm-related background checks conducted		154
Range and average number of days from the firearm and ammunition prohibition by the court to removing or confirming relinquishment[1]	Range	NA
	Average	0
Number of individuals who relinquish firearms voluntarily, understood to mean without additional law enforcement follow-up after becoming prohibited[2]		4
Number of firearms relinquished to law enforcement and licensed gun dealers[3]		16
Number of firearms removed by law enforcement and their disposition[4]		12

[1] Two of the cases reviewed had relinquishment dates that occurred prior to the date of order. Two cases were included in the calculation of range and average. Both relinquishments occurred on same day as the order.

[2] One of these cases has no relinquishment date. One of these cases has a relinquishment date prior to the date of order. One of these cases has an order date after the reporting period but a relinquishment date within reporting period.

[3] Two cases with a total of four firearms had relinquishment dates after the reporting period were excluded. Three cases with a total of 18 firearms did not have relinquishment dates and were excluded.

[4] Seven of these firearms do not have a relinquishment date.

NA = not applicable

11. Superior Court of Imperial County

The Superior Court of Imperial County and the Imperial County District Attorney's Office and Sheriff's Office expanded an existing program to ensure firearms compliance in all types of civil

restraining orders, felonies, misdemeanor cases that carry firearms prohibitions, and cases involving mental health–related prohibitions.

Program structure and milestones

The court provides information on relinquishment procedures and tracks compliance. The district attorney's and sheriff's offices have a dedicated team to review and facilitate relinquishment.

Milestones include:

- Imperial County District Attorney's Office and Sheriff's Office partnering to support domestic violence restraining orders where investigators conducted criminal history and firearm ownership checks on restrained individuals to verify compliance with court orders;
- Sheriff's Office senior deputy and district attorney investigator coordinating the safe service of restrained individuals confirmed to be registered firearm owners;
- The District Attorney's Office assigning the office investigator to follow up on noncompliance orders; and
- Expansion of work with the Imperial County Probation Department to support investigations involving firearm prohibitions.

Key outcomes

The court reported 85 cases; 3 were elder abuse, 2 were civil harassment, and 80 were for domestic violence. All cases had a background check completed by law enforcement. Two cases had firearms relinquished voluntarily, and three cases had firearms removed by law enforcement. A total of nine firearms were relinquished across the five cases.

Number of filings (cases) addressed, by type of order with subcategory								
Civil Harassment (CH)	Criminal (CR)	Domestic Violence (DV)	Elder Abuse (EA)	Gun Violence (GV)	Juvenile (JV)	Other type of court order that is not a restraining order (NonRO)	Schoolplace Violence (SV)	Workplace Violence (WV)
2	0	80	3	0	0	0	0	0

Metric	Subcategory (if applicable)	Number
Number of firearm-related background checks conducted		85
Range and average number of days from the firearm and ammunition prohibition by the court to removing or confirming relinquishment[1]	Range	0–8
	Average	4
Number of individuals who relinquish firearms voluntarily, understood to mean without additional law enforcement follow-up after becoming prohibited[2]		2
Number of firearms relinquished to law enforcement and licensed gun dealers[3]		9
Number of firearms removed by law enforcement and their disposition[4]		7

[1] Two of the cases reviewed had relinquishment dates that occurred prior to the date of order.

12. Superior Court of Sacramento County

The Superior Court of Sacramento County and the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office expanded an existing program to ensure firearms compliance in criminal protective order matters. Data was not submitted in time for inclusion into this report.

Program structure and milestones

The program includes establishing a task force to address firearms relinquishment and provide training and education to stakeholders and the public. The court will lead the task force and be responsible for notifying partners of noncompliant cases and related hearings. The district attorney's office will provide staff to investigate possible noncompliance, be present for compliance review hearings, and provide information to parties regarding proper relinquishment.

13. Superior Court of Shasta County

The Superior Court of Shasta County established a new program with dedicated Marshal's Office staff to ensure firearms compliance in domestic violence and gun violence restraining order cases.

Program structure and milestones

The court is dedicating marshal staff to be responsible for reviewing domestic violence and gun violence restraining order cases to screen for possible firearms, attend compliance review hearings, provide relinquishment information to restrained persons, follow up with restrained persons on status of relinquishment, and refer noncompliance cases to the district attorney's office and local law enforcement.

Milestones include:

- Establishing the program and training and onboarding a public safety service officer;
- Creating a workflow for marshal staff and courtroom services regarding the program; and
- Beginning discussions with an outside law enforcement agency for the storage or surrender of firearms.

Key outcomes

The court started its program with dedicated court staff on April 7, 2025. From this time to the end of this reporting period, the court reported 16 cases, with all cases having had a background check completed by the court's law enforcement partner. Only two cases were found to have registered firearms, which had already been relinquished. In one case, the individual relinquished five firearms after this reporting period, and in the other case, the individual relinquished three firearms during this reporting period but prior to the court-ordered prohibition. The firearms relinquished after the reporting period are not included in the metrics below. Thirteen cases were domestic violence cases, and three were civil harassment cases.

Number of filings (cases) addressed, by type of order with subcategory								
Civil Harassment (CH)	Criminal (CR)	Domestic Violence (DV)	Elder Abuse (EA)	Gun Violence (GV)	Juvenile (JV)	Other type of court order that is not a restraining order (NonRO)	Schoolplace Violence (SV)	Workplace Violence (WV)
3	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0

Metric	Subcategory (if applicable)	Number
Number of firearm-related background checks conducted		16
Range and average number of days from the firearm and ammunition prohibition by the court to removing or confirming relinquishment[1]	Range	NA
	Average	NA
Number of individuals who relinquish firearms voluntarily, understood to mean without additional law enforcement follow-up after becoming prohibited[2]		1
Number of firearms relinquished to law enforcement and licensed gun dealers[3]		3
Number of firearms removed by law enforcement and their disposition		0

[1] There was one case with relinquishment during this reporting period, but the firearms were relinquished before the prohibition order date.

[2] This relinquishment happened during the reporting period, but the order date is after.

[3] These three firearms were relinquished during the reporting period but after the order date.

NA = not applicable

Judicial Council Activities Supporting the Grant Program

The Judicial Council conducts a number of activities in support of the firearms relinquishment program, including data collection, reporting, and expenditure oversight; and education, training, and technical assistance. Additional information on these activities is provided below.

Data Collection, Reporting, and Expenditure Oversight

The courts submit quarterly reports to the Judicial Council including quantitative data points on grant activity as well as written narrative reports. This data is used to assist in the evaluation of the program. The courts also submit budget modifications on an ad hoc basis, which are reviewed by the Judicial Council to ensure that courts are in compliance with funding requirements. Lastly, the courts submit reimbursement requests, and the Judicial Council reviews and approves invoices prior to issuing payment.

Education, Training, and Technical Assistance

The Judicial Council hosted two statewide firearms policy and implementation convenings. The purpose of these events was to support firearms relinquishment programs for awardee courts, other interested courts, and justice system agencies involved with firearms relinquishment.

The first convening, held in September 2023, focused on topics such as the state and federal legal framework of firearms and domestic violence, restraining order registries, and the court's role in ensuring compliance. It was attended by over 100 people. A second convening, held in September 2025, was attended by over 100 people from 30 counties. Presentations included speakers from the Judicial Council, California DOJ, and the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law's Center for Indigenous Law and Justice. Programming also included a spotlight on grantee programs sharing promising practices as well as Judicial Council Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program grantees speaking on procedures in criminal courts implementing mental health and military diversion firearms relinquishment process and procedures. Agendas for these convenings are attached to this report as Appendixes 2 and 3.

The Judicial Council also provides additional training and technical assistance to the courts on firearms relinquishment. Like the convenings mentioned above, this assistance is not limited solely to the courts awarded this grant. A Judicial Council attorney and firearms subject matter expert provides training for judicial officers and court staff throughout the year, including at relevant judicial training programs and conferences, and focuses on a comprehensive approach to implementation of firearms-related policies impacting courts. This subject matter expert also provides individual technical assistance to courts upon request.

Subject matter experts work with Judicial Council advisory committees and members to ensure relevant court and Department of Justice forms are updated and disseminated to the courts, law enforcement, and the public. Staff gather promising practice information and share examples with courts statewide by providing technical assistance and responding to inquiries from courts about how to most effectively implement new and existing laws. This fall, Judicial Council staff

will record a webinar covering information gathered at the September convening and through ongoing consultation with grantee courts to provide key information to courts statewide. Judicial Council staff also regularly meet with staff from California's Department of Justice and local justice system entities, attorneys, and researchers to address challenges with implementation, identification of promising practices, and ways to improve firearm relinquishment procedures.

Summary of Successes and Challenges

Although several of the firearm relinquishment programs experienced delays in implementation, the programs are implementing key processes and procedures and demonstrating the importance of ongoing funding. During this reporting period, courts and law enforcement were able to work on over 4,700 cases, some of which included firearms and, at various times, prohibitions that were put in place or relinquishment that occurred prior to the reporting period. Access to funding enabled courts to adjudicate or review cases, issue orders, follow up to ensure relinquishment, and address noncompliance with firearm prohibitions by instituting review hearings and related processes. The funding also has allowed law enforcement and prosecutors to fulfill obligations related to noncompliance and relinquishment enforcement.

While not all cases included firearms, by reviewing evidence provided by parties and reviewing AFS, the courts were able to consider if and when a person who became prohibited was in compliance with the relinquishment requirements. Over 3,200 firearms were relinquished during the report period in over 900 cases confirmed as including relinquishment before, during, or after a court prohibition was issued. Review and documentation are critical for enforcement, reducing the number of people in APPS, and reducing the time between when a prohibition is ordered and a prohibited person is separated from any currently owned firearms.

Programs across all three funding cycles experienced various implementation challenges. These included a wide range of administrative, logistical, and technical issues. Counties encountered administrative hurdles such as difficulties in finalizing MOUs and staff turnover. Other counties reported staffing shortages and limited resources, making it difficult to hire new personnel for the grant. One court endured a cyberattack that resulted in project delays because staff had to shift focus to recovery efforts. Some courts reported logistical challenges such as lack of storage space for surrendered weapons, difficulty verifying firearm ownership without sufficient petitioner information, and needing to clearly define roles and responsibilities across partnerships. Lastly, some courts expressed technical challenges such as having limited availability of resources to update case management systems and needing to establish a method for data collection in tracking cases.

These and the other findings discussed in this report point to the importance of ongoing funding for the courts in this area, especially given the risks associated with access to firearms in cases involving individuals who have been found to be at risk of harming themselves or others and the prevalence of firearm ownership. The projects demonstrate that efficient use of resources to

assist with developing processes, providing information to restrained parties, and following up to ensure compliance can be effective in implementing firearm-prohibiting policies.

Future Activities

Several courts are working to expand their programs to address firearms compliance in additional case types. All programs will continue to work with their law enforcement agency partners to improve firearms relinquishment compliance. Programs will also need to seek additional funding to sustain or expand their programs. Although Assembly Bill 28 (Gabriel; Stats. 2023, ch. 231), the Gun Violence Prevention and School Safety Act, imposes an excise tax on firearm sales and thus provides possible ongoing funding for court-based firearm relinquishment programs, it is dependent on sufficient revenue from the tax. If revenue is sufficient, it would provide a maximum of $15 million to the Judicial Council on an annual basis; however, to date, it has not provided adequate revenue for the Judicial Council to receive any funding. The biggest contribution from the grant funding was the ability to put policies and procedures in place that will help courts comply with the new firearms relinquishment laws. The Judicial Council plans to put together an implementation guide that will be shared statewide based on information gathered from grantees who have established new programs or expanded existing ones.

In April 2025, the Judicial Council secured an independent evaluator for the program, as required by the enabling legislation. The California Firearm Violence Research Center at the University of California, Davis, will conduct the evaluation and start by holding meetings with Cycle 1 and 2 grantees to learn about each program's goals, the anticipated and actual activities being implemented by different partners, and the data being collected for the program. A Judicial Council subject matter expert will continue to provide training for judicial officers and court staff throughout the year, including at relevant judicial training programs and conferences, and focus on a comprehensive approach to implementation of firearm-related policies impacting courts.

Appendix 1
Firearms Relinquishment Grant Program
Allocations and Summary of Data

Table A. Allocations for Cycles 1, 2, and 3

#	Recipient Court	Region/Court Size	Funding Allocation
1	Alameda	Bay Area/large	$5,588,089
2	El Dorado	Northern California/small	578,993
3	Imperial	Southern California/small	1,261,304
4	Sacramento	Northern California/large	651,901
5	Shasta	Northern California/small	377,615
6	Los Angeles	Southern California/large	4,271,000
7	Modoc	Northern California/small	529,544
8	Orange	Southern California/large	1,551,777
9	San Diego	Southern California/large	2,346,843
10	San Francisco	Bay Area/medium	2,000,000
11	San Mateo	Bay Area/medium	4,859,905
12	Santa Clara	Greater Bay Area/large	3,080,253
13	Ventura	Central California/medium	1,428,740
			Total $28,525,964

Table B. Allocations to Court and Law Enforcement

#	Recipient Court	Court Allocation	%	Law Enforcement Allocation	%	Total Allocation
1	Alameda	$489,953	9	$5,098,135	91	$5,588,088
2	El Dorado[1]	46,911	8	532,081	92	578,993
3	Imperial	42,551	3	1,218,753	97	1,261,304
4	Los Angeles	654,000	15	3,617,000	85	4,271,000
5	Modoc	261,290	49	268,254	51	529,544
6	Orange	1,062,303	68	489,474	32	1,551,777
7	Sacramento	432,616	66	219,285	34	651,901
8	San Diego	279,096	12	2,067,747	88	2,346,843
9	San Francisco	1,363,107	68	636,893	32	2,000,000
10	San Mateo	3,401,929	70	1,457,976	30	4,859,905
11	Santa Clara[2]	1,119,538	36	1,960,714	64	3,080,253
12	Shasta	377,615	100	NA	NA	377,615
13	Ventura	291,541	20	1,137,199	80	1,428,740
	Total	9,822,450	33	$19,891,690	67	$29,714,140

[1] Subtotal is -$1 due to rounding.

[2] Court and law enforcement allocations are -$1 from total allocation due to rounding.

NA = not applicable

Table C. Total Cases Reviewed

#	Recipient Court	Cases Reviewed by Program	Cases Reviewed by Program That Involved Relinquishment
1	Alameda	15	0
2	El Dorado	154	4
3	Imperial	85	5
4	Los Angeles	366	151
5	Modoc	178	5
6	Orange	155	155
7	Sacramento	No data to report	
8	San Diego	184	184
9	San Francisco	2,239	52
10	San Mateo	944	85
11	Santa Clara	222	185
12	Shasta	16	1
13	Ventura	150	74
Total		4,707	901

Table D. Select Relinquishment Data

#	Recipient Court	Number of Individuals Who Relinquished	Number of Firearms Relinquished	% of Firearms Relinquished to Law Enforcement	% of Firearms Relinquished to Licensed Gun Dealers
1	Alameda	0	0	0	0
2	El Dorado	4	16	94	6
3	Imperial	5	9	100	0
4	Los Angeles	151	543	56	44
5	Modoc	5	30	67	33
6	Orange	155	684	39	61
7	Sacramento	No data to report[2]			
8	San Diego	184	465	78	22
9	San Francisco	52	283	92	8
10	San Mateo	85	233	76	24
11	Santa Clara[1]	185	741	61	38
12	Shasta	1	3	0	100
13	Ventura	74	245	45	55
Total		901	3,252	61	39

[1] Less than 1% (7 cases) went to Other, which included defendant's mother, transferred, transferred to father, and private party transfer.

[2] Sacramento was a new program funded in late 2024.

Appendix 2
Safer Together:
Implementing Firearms Policies Convening Agenda 2023

Safer Together: Working to Ensure Firearms Compliance

Judicial Council of California

September 7, 2023

Judicial Council
Milton Marks Conference Center
San Francisco

Agenda

Thursday, September 7, 2023

9:00–10:00 a.m.	Registration
10:00–11:00 a.m.	Welcome and Opening Plenary
11:05– 12:35 p.m.	Breakout Sessions 1 • Firearms and Domestic Violence: The Current State and Federal Legal Framework • Implementing Firearm Relinquishment Programs • Nuts & Bolts of Restraining Order Registries
12:35–1:30 p.m.	Lunch (County teams or neighboring counties sit together for discussion) • San Diego Room: Alameda, Contra Costa, Napa, Sacramento, San Francisco, San Mateo, Solano, Sonoma, Yolo • Benicia Room: Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, San Benito, San Diego, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Riverside, Ventura • Monterey Room: Butte, Humboldt, Lake, Madera, Merced, Modoc, Placer, Shasta, Sutter
1:30–3:00 p.m.	Breakout Sessions 2 • Court's Role in Ensuring Compliance • Experience with Firearm Retrieval in California • California Department of Justice - Bureau of Firearms: Armed and Prohibited Person Enforcement
3:00–3:15 p.m.	Break
3:15– 4:00 p.m.	Closing Plenary

Appendix 3
Safer Together:
Implementing Firearms Policies Convening Agenda 2025

Safer Together: Implementing Firearms Policies **September 3, 2025** **Milton Marks Auditorium** **San Francisco, CA**	Judicial Council of California **Agenda**

Wednesday, September 3, 2025	
8:30 – 10:00 a.m.	**Registration / Networking / Coffee**
10:00 – 10:20 a.m.	**Welcome and Overview** **Francine Byrne**, *Director, Judicial Council of California, Criminal Justice Services* **Michelle Curran**, *Administrative Director, Judicial Council of California* **Hon. Mark Juhas**, *Judge of the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles* **Julia Weber**, *Retired Annuitant, Firearms Policy, Judicial Council of California, Criminal Justice Services*
10:20 – 11:05 a.m.	**Opening Plenary** **Ari Freilich**, *Director, Office of Gun Violence Prevention, California Department of Justice*
11:05 – 11:15 a.m.	**Break**

11:15 – 12:15 p.m.	**Firearms Relinquishment: Promising Practices in Civil and Criminal Courts** *Spotlight Programs from Santa Clara County, Orange County and San Francisco County* **Hon. Charles Adams**, *Judge of the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara* **Brandon Cabrera**, *Supervising Deputy District Attorney, Santa Clara County* **Teri Thomas**, *Retired Court Manager, Superior Court of California, County of Orange* **Melanie Kushnir**, *Director, Collaborative Justice Programs, Superior Court of California, County of San Francisco,* **Jeremy Valverde**, *Assistant Chief, Adult Probation Department, San Francisco County* **Michael Vidmar**, *Supervising Deputy District Attorney, Santa Clara County* **Julia Weber**, *Retired Annuitant, Firearms Policy, Judicial Council of California, Criminal Justice Services*
12:15 – 1:15 p.m.	**Lunch** Look for your table and room assignment on the back of your nametag
1:15 – 2:15 p.m.	**Navigating Jurisdiction in Indian Country: Collaborative Approaches to Firearm Regulation and Public Safety** **Merri Lopez-Keifer**, *Executive Director, Center for Indigenous Law & Justice, University of California Berkeley School of Law*
2:15 – 2:25 p.m.	**Break**
2:25 – 3:45 p.m.	**Breakout Sessions** **Key Restraining Order and Relinquishment Forms: Current and New for 2026** **Sarah Fleischer-Ihn**, *Attorney, Judicial Council of California, Criminal Justice Services* **Frances Ho**, *Supervising Attorney, Judicial Council of California, Center for Families, Children & the Courts* **Madison Joyner**, *Attorney, Judicial Council of California, Legal Services* **Submitting and Obtaining Records Through DOJ** **Brittany Phillips**, *Investigative Database Services Section Manager, California Department of Justice* **Anallely Rodriguez**, *Field Representative, California Department of Justice*

3:45 – 4:00 p.m.	**Next Steps** **Hon. Mark Juhas**, *Judge of the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles*
4:00 p.m.	**Adjourn**