

Help CFCU Inform Educators about New ERPO (Extreme Risk Protection Order) Training

The 13th Sandy Hook Anniversary and National Vigil for All Victims of Gun Violence in December call upon us to honor the victims of gun violence with faith fueled action. Here's one project of CFCU's Public health Strategies you can assist by forwarding a single email.

We need your help informing teachers you know (K-12 and college level) about the new ERPO Training curriculum developed by the AG's office. Training more educators to spot warning signs and use the ERPO tool when appropriate is a critical step to preventing school tragedies. And reaching out to just one teacher can plant a seed leading to more teachers at that school learning about this lifesaving tool.

Please take the time to identify at least one teacher you know personally or indirectly and encourage them to take this one hour training for which they can earn Continuing Education Credits (My son's roommate became a teacher so I'm reaching out to him.)

Here's a sample message you can use or modify for outreach. CFCU is trying to monitor our outreach so please let us know which school(s)/District were contacted at publichealthstrategies@cfcu-co.org

Sample Message to Educators in Your Congregation or Friendship Circle

Our/my congregation helped pass Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO) legislation in 2019 as a member of Colorado Faith Communities United to end Gun Violence. ERPO is a lifesaving tool that allows for the removal of firearms from the home when an individual poses a serious risk to themselves or others as determined through a judicial process. To increase its effectiveness, ERPO was expanded in 2023 to enable educators and health/behavioral professionals to also file these petitions.

Colorado has a long and painful history of school gun violence, some of which can be prevented using Colorado's Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO) law. Training more educators to spot warning signs and use the ERPO tool when appropriate is a critical step to preventing school tragedies.

I'm writing to provide you with information about this new curriculum for educators developed by the Colorado AG's Office and encourage you to take this one hour training which also qualifies for Continuing Education Credits. Please let me know if you decide to take this training and any feedback for improving its usefulness.

ERPO Training Information for Educators

The Colorado Department of Law has officially launched its free, interactive training on Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPOs) for gun violence prevention. This training is designed specifically for educators, administrators, threat assessment team members, and any school staff who are concerned about preventing gun violence in schools. The training includes two 30-minute modules with versions for [K-12 \(link opens in new tab\)](#) and [higher education \(link opens in new tab\)](#):

- Module 1: An overview of what to do when concerned about a student's risk of harm to self or others, including how to work with threat assessment teams and when ERPOs may be a relevant tool
- Module 2: A practical, step-by-step guide to filing for an ERPO, with best practices. This training was piloted with over 100 educators. After the training, 96% of educators claimed they understood the circumstances warranting an ERPO and 100% claimed they understood the process. Participants stated the training was valuable for school professionals, that it was engaging, and that it struck a politically balanced approach.

Each module includes scenarios, downloadable tools, and guidance tailored to K-12 or higher ed settings. The training is available on COTRAIN at no cost and can be used for continuing education credit.

See attached informational flyer about ERPO's.