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Ventura County Sees Record Increase in Gun Violence Restraining Orders in 2026

VENTURA, Calif. – Ventura County District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that local law enforcement agencies have obtained 113 temporary gun violence restraining orders (GVROs) to date in 2026, surpassing the 91 obtained during all of 2025 and the 60 obtained in 2024.

The increase reflects a coordinated effort by Ventura County law enforcement agencies to recognize situations when there is clear and convincing evidence that a person poses a significant danger to themselves or others by having access to a firearm. Notably, the Ventura County Sheriff's Office has obtained 54 GVRO's in 2026.

"Our law enforcement partners have made GVROs an important part of their efforts to protect our communities," said District Attorney Nasarenko. "Their willingness to recognize warning signs and take action is making a meaningful difference in Ventura County."

The District Attorney's Office has also expanded its own efforts. Through Assembly Bill 1344, which provides an avenue for prosecutors to seek temporary GVROs, the office obtained 15 orders during the first 10 months of 2026. Eight involved family violence, three involved mental health concerns, and four involved threats related to firearms.

"When someone is making threats to harm themselves or others, they should be taken seriously," said Chief Investigator Scott Whitney. "GVROs are a tool that law enforcement, family members, and community members can use to save lives. We will continue to work with law enforcement and interested community groups to identify the appropriate circumstances for obtaining a GVRO and to navigate the procedural requirements for obtaining one. We like the positive momentum and remain committed to building upon it."