

(8) Extreme risk protection orders have proven successful in situations where other protective orders, mental health proceedings, or criminal charges could not address the risk presented. In fiscal year 2022, 18 extreme risk protection order petitions were filed statewide. In at least five of these cases, a temporary or final order was based on a finding that the respondent had “threatened or attempted suicide or serious bodily harm.” None of the respondents subject to an extreme risk prevention order are known to have died by suicide;

*[.pdf attached]*

(9) Emphasis on the 8% of firearm deaths by homicide in the State of Vermont does not portray the full impact of Vermont firearms on public safety. Firearms purchased in Vermont and transferred, lawfully or unlawfully, out of state contribute to violent crime in other states, including homicide. A report prepared by the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) revealed that in 2016 there were 51 traces of firearms involved in a homicide to the State of Vermont;

*[.pdf attached]*

(10) The National Firearms Commerce and Trafficking Assessment (NFCTA): Crime Guns - Volume Two report prepared by the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) revealed that between 2017 and 2021, 6,333 firearms that were used in a crime were traced to Vermont. Of the 1,903 firearms that could be traced to a known purchaser, 65% were recovered from someone other than the purchaser, and 64% were recovered outside the State of Vermont. Over 750 of these firearms were recovered in our neighboring states of New York, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire;

<https://www.atf.gov/firearms/national-firearms-commerce-and-trafficking-assessment-nfcta-crime-guns-volume-two>

(11) Vermont’s existing laws are not successfully deterring straw purchases where an individual lawfully acquires and then unlawfully transfers a firearm to a prohibited person or someone unable to acquire a firearm in the State of Vermont. Waiting periods are among the policy options available to deter straw purchases and to allow greater opportunity for law enforcement detection and response to such attempts;

(12) Waiting period laws, which create a buffer between the time of gun purchase and gun acquisition, can help to prevent impulsive acts of gun violence. One study found that waiting period laws that delay the purchase of firearms by a few days can reduce gun homicides by roughly 17%.

<https://www.pnas.org/doi/epdf/10.1073/pnas.1619896114>