



# **RESOURCES FOR UNDERSTANDING EXTREME RISK PROTECTION ORDERS**

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# How do Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPOs) and Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPOs) interact – and where do their protections differ?

ERPOs are powerful tools for temporarily removing firearms from individuals who pose a serious risk to themselves or others. But ERPOs **do not** provide direct protections for survivors or their children. They do not restrain the abusive partner from contacting, threatening or approaching the survivor. Only DVPOs can offer comprehensive relief and prohibit the abusive partner from possessing firearms.

It's vital for practitioners across the justice system – advocates, attorneys, judges, law enforcement – to understand both the unique strengths and the limitations of ERPOs and DVPOs and how they can be used together to maximize survivor safety. It is also imperative for jurisdictions to have a comprehensive firearm surrender and removal procedure to facilitate firearms removal for both ERPOs and DVPOs.

The National Center on Protection Orders and Full Faith & Credit (NCPOFFC) offers a range of resources to help:

## **ERPO Toolkit for Practitioners<sup>1</sup>**

This toolkit was created for practitioners working within the civil protection order system. It provides an overview of ERPOs, how they differ from DVPOs and what considerations to have in the context of domestic violence. It includes:

- [ERPOs v. DVPOs](#): a side-by-side comparison
- [ERPOs at a glance](#): A snapshot of key facts and features of ERPO statutes in the U.S.
- [ERPO FAQs](#): Straightforward answers to common questions
- [ERPO Statutes](#): a compilation of state ERPO statutes across the country

<sup>1</sup> NCPOFFC is currently updating this toolkit in 2025.

## **Recorded Webinar: Judicial Strategies to Prevent Firearms Violence: Extreme Risk Protection Orders and Domestic Violence Protection Orders**

Held on January 8, 2025, and designed specifically for judges, this webinar was co-presented by BWJP, the National ERPO Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University (JHU), and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ). It includes:

- A brief overview of how firearms intersect with domestic violence,
- How DVPOs and ERPOs uniquely and complementarily promote safety, and
- A facilitated panel of judges on practical strategies for issuing, implementing, and enforcing both types of orders

## **Recorded Webinar: Navigating Domestic Violence Protection Orders and Extreme Risk Protection Orders**

Originally recorded on October 7, 2024, this joint webinar was hosted by BWJP's National Resource Center on Domestic Violence and Firearms, NCPOFFC, and JHU's National ERPO Resource Center. The webinar dives into:

- Helping survivors decide whether to pursue a DVPO, ERPO or both,
- Understanding the mechanics of filing and enforcing ERPOs, and
- Reviewing emerging trends and survivor-centered considerations.

This session is designed for those working directly with survivors, providing guidance on navigating all legal options available for survivors.

For more resources and support, visit [www.fullfaithandcredit.org](http://www.fullfaithandcredit.org) or contact NCPOFFC at [ncffc@bwjp.org](mailto:ncffc@bwjp.org) or 1.800.903.0111, prompt 2.



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