

Domestic violence often reaches the most vulnerable populations in their own homes and notably affects women in communities of color. Firearm access within a household experiencing domestic violence increases the potential for homicide by 500 percent. Consequently, the City must ensure that firearm access prohibition and relinquishment orders are effectively enforced to protect families from gun violence.

Existing California law allows civil courts to temporarily prohibit the purchase or possession of firearms by individuals who pose significant risk to themselves or others through Gun Violence Restraining Orders (GVROs) and Domestic Violence Restraining Orders (DVROs). Further, if an individual subject to a GVRO or DVRO is in possession of a firearm, they are required to relinquish all firearms or ammunition within 24 hours. As the local law enforcement agency, the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) serves and tracks GVROs, accepts relinquished firearms pursuant to GVROs and DVROs, and may be required to execute search warrants if an individual is determined to have firearms they have not relinquished.

Senate Bill 320 (Eggman), effective January 2022, established new procedures for courts to notify law enforcement agencies of violations of firearm relinquishment orders, requiring law enforcement agencies to take action as soon as practical to enforce the order. The LAPD is currently in the process of establishing internal procedures to comply with the new State law.

The City of Los Angeles must remain committed to exploring and supporting common sense domestic violence and gun violence safety measures. Accordingly the LAPD should provide an overview of domestic violence cases, existing challenges to enforcing court orders, as well as resources required for additional workload potentially generated by SB 320 compliance.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council direct the Los Angeles Police Department to:

1. Provide an overview of the LAPD's response to domestic violence incidents, providing relevant statistics such as the number of incidents per year, procedures for response, and any other information tracked relating to domestic violence; and
2. Report on challenges to enforcing gun relinquishment provisions of court orders and best practices implemented in other jurisdictions relating to firearm restraining order enforcement; and
3. Report on new DVRO enforcement procedures as they relate to SB 320 (Eggman) as well as the additional resources needed to adequately address any potential increase in GVRO enforcement resulting from SB 320.

PRESENTED BY:



TRACI PARK

Councilwoman, 11th District

SECONDED BY:



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