

**Department:** Sheriff **Program Contact:** James Eriksen  
**Program Offer Type:** Existing Operating Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Adopted  
**Related Programs:**  
**Program Characteristics:**

**Executive Summary**

The Multnomah County Sheriff’s Office (MCSO) Gun Dispossession program provides for countywide investigation of restraining order violations, specifically when the respondents do not comply by dispossessing themselves of their firearms. Since approximately 2015, MCSO has collaborated with the Portland Police Bureau, Multnomah County District Attorney’s Office, and the Multnomah County Circuit Court in enforcing the gun dispossession clause of restraining orders by working with both petitioners and respondents to gain compliance with the court orders.

**Program Summary**

In 2011, a model surrender protocol was developed in a statewide domestic violence firearms task force, and this process is currently being utilized in Multnomah County. In January 2020, this protocol was extended to the other protection orders through an Oregon House of Representatives Bill, which include Stalking Orders, Sex Abuse Protection Orders, Disabled and Elder Abuse Protection Orders, and Family Abuse Protection Orders.

The purpose of this program is to provide one MCSO full-time employee to partner with the Portland Police Bureau's Family Services Division for education and enforcement actions against respondents who do not comply with the firearms prohibition on their restraining order and to conduct follow-up investigations on restraining order violations. The unit will also investigate general restraining order violations and present cases to the District Attorney’s Office for prosecution.

The funding for this position will help educate and/or force respondents to comply with the court order to surrender their firearms. It will provide the necessary full-time employee to assist with conducting investigations to locate the respondents and their firearms. This will reduce the number of illicit firearms in the community, and this action will also assist in reducing domestic violence lethality by removing firearms from the respondent’s possession. Data shows that access to firearms can increase the risk of death to the petitioner by five times and up to twenty times if the respondent had made prior threats or assaults with firearms. Statistics demonstrate that an abuser’s access to firearms increases the risk of homicide of a female partner by 400%, and the mere presence of a gun increases fivefold the chance that domestic violence results in homicide.

Collaborative investigative efforts combined with connecting petitioners to resources, including domestic violence advocates, aligns with the mission of MCSO to value and support all community members through exemplary public safety service.

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY20 Actual	FY21 Budgeted	FY21 Estimate	FY22 Offer
Output	Number of dispossessed firearm cases investigated	N/A	150	160	150
Outcome	Number of firearms seized	N/A	40	90	50
Output	Number of restraining order violations investigated	N/A	140	66	75
Outcome	Number of cases presented to the District Attorney's Office for prosecution	N/A	75	20	36

**Performance Measures Descriptions**

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds
Program Expenses	2021	2021	2022	2022
Personnel	\$156,760	\$0	\$204,496	\$0
Capital Outlay	\$40,000	\$0	\$22,021	\$0
<b>Total GF/non-GF</b>	<b>\$196,760</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$226,517</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Program Total:</b>	<b>\$196,760</b>		<b>\$226,517</b>	
Program FTE	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2021: 60555 Gun Dispossession/VRO Detail Restoration