

UNIVERSAL BACKGROUND CHECKS:

Background check provisions will apply to the purchase of all firearms in Michigan including those between private parties. (The law does not apply to guns bought prior to February 13, 2024.)

PROTECTIONS FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVORS

People with domestic violence convictions of any kind – misdemeanor or felony – will be banned from buying, owning, or transporting firearms for eight years after they complete their sentence. The law is not retroactive.

MICHIGAN'S NEW GUN SAFETY LAWS

Effective February 13, 2024

For additional information see:



*This brochure is available to download
(and then print and pass out) at
<https://www.sjegh.com/endgunviolence>.
Please share this information.*

Designed by Katie Martin for:

- *United Methodist Church of the Dunes
(Grand Haven) Gun Violence Prevention
Task Force*
- *St. John's Episcopal Church (Grand Haven)
Gun Violence Prevention Team*

SOURCES:

*(in addition to End Gun Violence Michigan's
web page)*

*The Grand Rapids Press, "State fire arms laws
will change in 2024. Here's how,"
December 28, 2023 Section A, page 1, column 1.*

*Everytown for Gun Safety, "Extreme Risk Laws,"
[https://www.everytown.org/solutions/extreme-
risk-laws/](https://www.everytown.org/solutions/extreme-risk-laws/), accessed January 23, 2024.*



In 2023 Michigan legislators adopted gun safety legislation related to: safe storage, extreme risk protection orders (also referred to as red flag orders), universal background checks, domestic violence gun ban, and updated Michigan's airport codes to align with current Federal Aviation Administration guidelines.

Perhaps the least known of these changes – to address a gap in the state's ban on firearms in the "sterile area" of an airport (defined as the place past airport security) became effective in 2023. The other gun safety laws adopted in 2023 are effective as of February 13, 2024.

These laws won't prevent all gun violence. But based on the experience in other states that have enacted similar measures we can expect that lives will be saved and firearm inflicted injuries reduced because of these measures.

For these gun safety laws to be effective Michiganders need to be aware of them, abide by them, and know when the new protective orders can appropriately be requested of the courts.

A brief summary of the changes effective February 13, 2024 follows.

SAFE STORAGE

When minors are present, gun owners are required to safely store firearms. If a minor gains access to a firearm due to improper storage the gun owner could be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by not more than 93 days in jail, a fine of no more than \$500, or both. Additional fines and fees are possible for an adult if the minor hurts another person with an unsafely stored firearm. The penalties increase should a minor kill someone with a firearm that was not safely stored. The new safe storage laws do not apply to instances of ranching or farming, target practices, hunting or instruction in the safe use of a firearm. (As a way to encourage safe gun storage legislation was also adopted to exempt "firearm safety devices" from the state's sales and use tax through December 31, 2024.)

EXTREME RISK PROTECTION ORDER

To de-escalate emergency situations (such as a firearm suicide or mass shooting) an eligible petitioner (such as family member, current or former partner, or mental health professional) may petition a court for an order to temporarily prevent someone in crisis from accessing guns. The person filing the complaint needs to show the person at issue can "reasonably be expected within the near future to intentionally or unintentionally seriously physically injure himself, herself, or another individual by possessing a fire arm." If a judge determines the person at issue poses an immediate risk to themselves or others, the court may require that person to relinquish their firearms (immediately or within 24 hours). Typically, the order would last for one year. During that time, a law enforcement agency would possess the person's firearms and ammunition identified in the initial risk protection order. Although experts say abuse of the process is rare, the new law also accounts for punitive use of risk protection orders.