

Meeting Minutes

Task Force on Community Safety and Firearm Suicide Prevention

Date: March 3, 2025

Time: 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Location: Virtual via ZoomGov

Call to Order, Roll Call

Attendees

Members in attendance: Dean Sidelinger, Valerie Colas, Donna-Marie Drucker, Paul Kemp, Kathleen Carlson, Vanessa Timmons, Emmy Ritter, Matthew Crabtree, Andrew White, Jerome Sloan II, Chris Burley, James Dixon

Staff in attendance: Toni Kemple, Daisy Mitchell, Alicia Temple

Members not in attendance: Andy Leonard, Senator Floyd Prozanski, Senator David Brock Smith, Rep Jason Kropf, Rep. Rick Lewis

SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS:

The meeting was recorded in full and is available online at the Task Force on Community Safety and Firearm Suicide Prevention website: [Task Force on Community Safety and Firearm Suicide Prevention - Oregon Department of Justice](#)

Co-Chair Andrew White reminded Task Force members that video recordings of previous meetings are available on the website, including the presentation last month by Dr. Sung. (*see video time stamp 0:01:50*)

Co-Chairs Donna-Marie Drucker and Andrew White provided information on both current and upcoming speakers and presenters. (*see video time stamp 0:02:45*)

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Presentation - Video time stamp 0:05:35

PowerPoint presentation, “The Armory Project (TAP): Firearm Suicide Prevention for Veterans and Communities”, by Gala True, Ph.D. – the Richard A. Culbertson and Susan A. Leary Endowed Professor in Community and Population Medicine at the LSU School of Medicine and an Investigator with the VA’s South Central Mental Illness Research, Education, and Clinical Center (MIRECC). TAP has played a key role in developing a robust out-of-home firearm storage network and elevating suicide prevention efforts within Louisiana’s firearm community. This initiative has led to the creation of outreach materials and PSAs designed by and for the firearm community.

- **Partnering with Firearm Retailers to Promote Secure Firearm Storage: Sustainment and Expansion of The Armory Project** *(see video time stamp 0:06:14)*
- **Conflict of Interest** *(see video time stamp 0:06:53)*
- **Firearm Suicide is a Problem in Louisiana** *(see video time stamp 0:07:21)*
 - Firearm Deaths by Method
 - Suicides by Method
- **We are not the first (or only) ones in this space** *(see video time stamp 0:02:45)*
 - Gun Shop Project
 - State Storage Maps
 - Pause to Protect
 - Hold My Guns
- **TAP Pilot 2019-2022** *(see video time stamp 0:11:36)*
 - Partnered with 3 firearm retailers (FFLs) to create a process
 - Developed an implementation Toolkit
- **Quote from a retailer** *(see video time stamp 0:14:03)*
- **2022 Legislation addressed retailers' concerns about potential liability** *(see video time stamp 0:15:06)*
 - Key language
 - Immunity from civil liability
- **TAP Expansion and Sustainment 2023-Present** *(see video time stamp 0:18:35)*
 - Expanding TAP
 - Spreading the Word
- **We Recruited 12 New FFLs + 1 Base** *(see video time stamp 0:20:27)*
 - Time and Effort to Recruit FFLs
- **Components of being a TAP Storage Partner** *(see video time stamp 0:22:16)*
 - Toolkit
 - Marketing Materials
 - Suicide Prevention Training + Resources
 - Monthly Community of Practice Calls
 - Regular Check-ins
 - Template Storage Agreement
- **Expansion and Piloting of the Armory Project in Arkansas** *(see video time stamp 0:24:36)*
- **Firearm Suicide is a Problem in Arkansas** *(see video time stamp 0:24:42)*
 - Firearm Deaths by Method
 - Suicides by Method
- **We Recruited Three FFLs** *(see video time stamp 0:24:46)*
 - Time and Effort to Recruit FFLs
- **We Worked Through Specific Concerns** *(see video time stamp 0:25:56)*
 - Challenges

- Solutions
- **Preparing for the Pilot** (see video time stamp 0:26:59)
 - Material Review
 - Addressing Major Concerns
 - Community of Practice Calls
 - Training
- **Training Outcomes** (see video time stamp 0:27:34)
- **Pilot Process** (see video time stamp 0:28:17)
 - 4-month pilot period
- **Pilot Results** (see video time stamp 0:28:37)
- **Lessons Learned** (see video time stamp 0:29:20)
 - Remained the same across states
 - Needed to be adapted for Arkansas
- **2024/2025 Legislation passed in Arkansas** (see video time stamp 0:29:50)
 - HB 1067 was signed into law as AR ACT 106 effective 2-18-2025
- **TAP Outcomes Between October 2021 and January 2025** (see video time stamp 0:31:10)
- **Consultation Service and Technical Support for the Armory Project and Related Projects Across the United States** (see video time stamp 0:32:00)
- **We aren't the only ones – how can we support each other?** (see video time stamp 0:32:03)
- **Consultation Service** (see video time stamp 0:32:03)
- **What is being discussed?** (see video time stamp 0:32:03)
- **Who is Using the Consultation Service?** (see video time stamp 0:33:35)
- **Following CBS Story** (see video time stamp 0:32:03)
 - TAP Research Team: 30+ inquiries
 - FFL: hundreds of inquiries
- A time for Questions and Discussion (see video time stamp 0:34:33)

Discussion about current programs and possibilities for out-of-home firearm storage; results of past legislation and current bills before the legislature

2. **Discussion** – How this may influence policy. *Video time stamp 1:05:57*

Co-Chair Andrew White asked for feedback on possible ideas for policy recommendations and/or topics for discussion. These would be policy recommendations for next session.

Task Force member Matthew Crabtree suggested that ERPO would be one possible recommendation for an upcoming session.

Task Force members are encouraged to share and submit their suggestions. Feedback from the public is also welcome. Both Task Force members and the public may submit suggestions and feedback by emailing the Task Force at community.safety@doj.oregon.gov

Suggestions by Task Force members:

- Community violence interruption
- Suicide review commissions
- Violence reduction counsels

Staff is asked to provide copies of current bills for review. Alicia Temple will work to provide the bills to the Task Force members.

DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO:

The following documents were discussed at the meeting and are available on request by emailing community.safety@doj.oregon.gov or visiting the website at:

<https://www.doj.state.or.us/oregon-department-of-justice/office-of-the-attorney-general/task-force-on-community-safety-and-firearm-suicide/>

- PowerPoint Presentation by Dr. True

Next Meeting:

Date: April 7, 2025

Time: 10: 00 am to Noon

Via: ZoomGov