



**Senate Bill 0899  
Firearms Dealers - Firearm Hold Agreements  
Favorable**

The Maryland State Police wear and carry permit training course contains information on voluntary firearm(s) storage including a link to a gun control advocacy website. This website in turn, lists federally licensed firearms dealers who offer firearm storage services to the public.

Senate Bill 899 seeks to protect these dealers from civil liability for the actions of the firearm owner after the owner retakes possession of the firearm(s). This protection does not apply if the licensee's actions are in violation of the Criminal Procedures Article §6-234 or are otherwise unlawful.

Dealers may be reluctant to provide storage services due to liability concerns. Senate Bill 692 currently pending in this Committee demonstrates that these concerns are not unfounded this type of legislation will only elevate those concerns.

We strongly urge a favorable report on Sente Bill 0899.

Respectfully,

John H. Josselyn  
2A Maryland  
02/24/2026

Attachments: MDP CCW Training: page 58 of 71.  
MPGV website

# Suicide Prevention for Firearm Owners



As a firearm owner, being responsible with your firearm and knowing more about suicide prevention can save lives. One unsecured firearm can put everyone in a household at risk of injury or death, not just the firearm owner. The decision to attempt suicide can happen in a matter of minutes. Being able to recognize a crisis, along with having your firearm properly stored and secured, could be the difference between life and death for yourself or a loved one.

## DID YOU KNOW?

**45%**  
of suicides in Maryland involved firearms between 2003 - 2020  
*(Maryland Violent Death Reporting System, 2023)*



The majority of firearm deaths in the US are suicides. There are more firearm suicide deaths than firearm homicides.  
*(Pew Research Center, 2023)*



Unsecured handguns are used in the majority of firearm suicides.  
*(Death Studies, 2022; Rutgers, 2022)*

## Suicide is preventable. You can save a life.

### 1 Be SMART Safety Store Your Firearms

- S** **Secure** all firearms in your home and vehicles
- M** **Model** responsible behavior around guns
- A** **Ask** about unsecured guns in other homes
- R** **Recognize** the role of guns in suicide
- T** **Tell** your peers to Be SMART



### 2 VOLUNTARY FIREARM STORAGE



If someone is feeling suicidal, has recently attempted suicide, or is experiencing a crisis, remove firearms until the situation improves. Consider storing firearms at a temporary, voluntary external safe storage option.

For more information, visit [mdpgv.org/safestoragemap](http://mdpgv.org/safestoragemap)

### 3 MENTAL HEALTH OR SUBSTANCE USE CRISIS? CALL OR TEXT 988



CONFIDENTIAL AND AVAILABLE 24/7

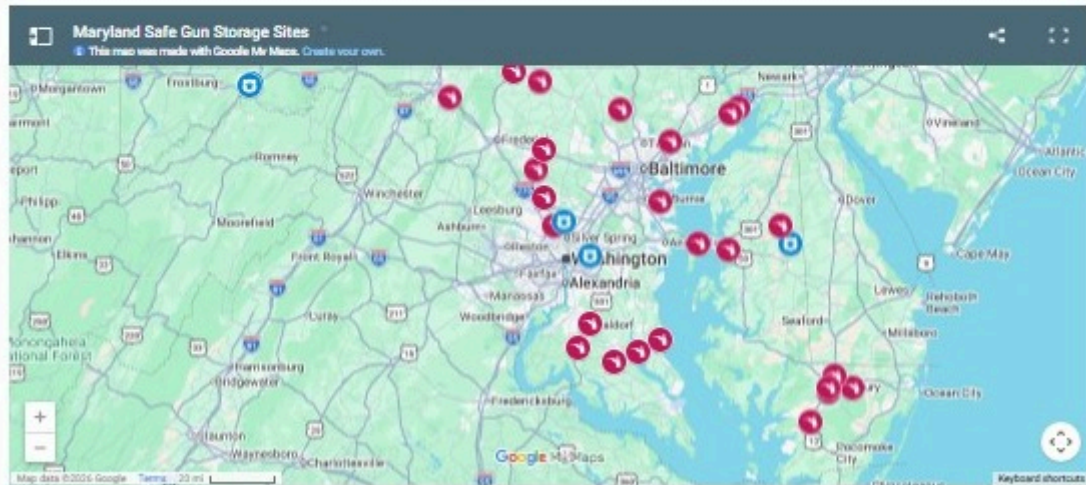
Maryland Department of Health • Behavioral Health Administration  
Office of Suicide Prevention | [mdh.suicideprevention@maryland.gov](mailto:mdh.suicideprevention@maryland.gov) | [health.maryland.gov/bha/suicideprevention](http://health.maryland.gov/bha/suicideprevention)

## MARYLAND SAFE STORAGE MAP

### About Maryland Gun Storage Options

Temporary, Voluntary Firearm Storage Options (Updated Spring 2024)

This map is designed to help community members find local options for temporary, voluntary firearm storage. Out-of-home gun storage can be particularly beneficial for individuals in crisis at risk of suicide. As of Spring 2024, the businesses and law enforcement agencies listed on this map are willing to consider requests for temporary, voluntary gun storage.



If you're seeking temporary gun storage, we encourage you to contact the listed businesses and law enforcement agencies directly for more information.

If you represent a business or law enforcement agency interested in being added to this map, please email [mdsafegunstorage@gmail.com](mailto:mdsafegunstorage@gmail.com).

#### Why Do Gun Owners Sometimes Want to Store Firearms Away from Home?

- Someone in the home is experiencing mental health or substance use issues.
- A teenager in the home is in crisis and at risk for suicide.
- The gun owner is traveling out of state and wants to secure firearms while away.
- Grandchildren or young children are visiting for an extended period.
- There is a situation of domestic or partner violence, raising concerns about having a gun in the house.
- The homeowner is listing the home for sale and wants to secure firearms during showings.

The American Association for Suicide Prevention recommends considering temporary off-site storage for firearms when concerned about a loved one. Visit "Firearms and Suicide Prevention" to learn more actions that can save lives.

#### Where Can Guns Be Stored?

Many places offer gun storage, including gun shops, shooting ranges, police departments, and specialized storage facilities. Pawn shops and self-storage units may also provide storage options. You can view the map to find options in your area.

#### What Questions Should I Ask When Looking for Storage Options?

Before taking your firearms to a storage location, consider asking:

- The process for storage
- Any costs involved
- Whether a background check is required before retrieving your gun(s)
- Any limits on the duration of storage

Many retailers offer storage on a case-by-case basis. Reach out to them to discuss if they can accommodate your request.

#### How Should I Bring My Firearm to a Safe Storage Location?

- Always call ahead to arrange a time to bring in your firearms for storage. Do not bring loaded firearms into a gun shop, police station, or other storage locations.
- If you need to leave your firearm in your vehicle while making storage arrangements, lock it in a case and/or store it in a locked compartment of your vehicle, out of sight. Some locations may offer pick-up services; inquire about this when you call.