

MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

INCLUDE EXTREME RISK PROTECTION ORDERS IN STATEWIDE COMPUTER REGISTRY

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The New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NYSCADV) urges the New York State Legislature to pass legislation that would require extreme risk protection orders to be reported to the statewide computerized registry.

Extreme risk protection orders (or ERPOs) are an important tool to increase victim safety. They prevent a person who has been deemed a danger to themselves or others from purchasing or possessing a firearm, in addition to requiring the person to surrender any firearms they already own or possess. Although current law requires judges to notify the state Division of State Police, local law enforcement agencies, and the state Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) that an ERPO has been issued or modified, there is no requirement that judges provide notice of such orders to the statewide computerized registry of orders of protection and warrants of arrest.

The state registry is accessible by state and local law enforcement, DCJS, the state Office of Court Administration and the state Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence. Ensuring ERPOs are included in the statewide registry will allow law enforcement agencies throughout the state to have access to this information when responding to domestic incidents. Access to this information will also aid in law enforcement's efforts to ensure compliance with court orders.

NYSCADV urges the Legislature to ensure law enforcement personnel have access to critical information about valid ERPOs to enhance the safety of domestic violence victims and their families.

ABOUT NYSCADV:

Established in 1978, NYSCADV is designated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as the information clearinghouse, primary point of contact, and resource center on domestic violence for the State of New York. NYSCADV is responsible for supporting the development of policies, protocol, and procedures to enhance domestic violence intervention and prevention and also provides education and technical assistance to the network of primary-purpose domestic violence service providers statewide.

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