

## OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY <u>TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT</u>

Michael T. Dougherty, District Attorney

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## <u>Press Release</u> District Attorney Announces Two Initiatives to Reduce Gun Violence and Suicides

Amidst a sharp increase in gun violence in urban areas across the nation, the District Attorney's Office joined with Prosecutors Against Gun Violence (PAGV), a non-partisan coalition of 46 prosecutors, in sending a letter with comprehensive recommendations to President Biden and Vice President Harris to reduce gun violence and suicides. The four-part blueprint, containing a broad range of common-sense gun safety and violence prevention measures, urges executive and congressional action to make the public safer.

Additionally, the District Attorney's Office is partnering with the Attorney General's Office and law enforcement agencies to encourage safe gun storage. Due to the increase in motor vehicle trespasses and home burglaries, the "Safe Gun Storage Initiative" seeks to remind firearm owners to safely secure their weapons, including by using locked storage devices in cars and homes. Public service announcements were created, which can be viewed <u>HERE</u>.

District Attorney Michael Dougherty stated, "We must take active steps to prevent violence, including crimes and suicides involving guns. By storing our guns safely and securely, we avert violent acts and accidental tragedies. We are grateful to Attorney General Weiser for his leadership and support of this important program."

Sheriff Joe Pelle and the Police Chiefs for Boulder, Longmont, Louisville, Lafayette, Erie, University of Colorado – Boulder, and Nederland all joined in support of the Safe Gun Storage Initiative formed by the Attorney General's Office. The Attorney General's Office had developed this initiative through a collaborative effort with District Attorneys and law enforcement from around the State of Colorado, including District Attorney Dougherty and Sheriff Pelle.

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