

If I am served with a Restraining Order in Mendocino County, what must I do with my firearm?

A firearm is defined as a:

- Handgun
- Assault weapon
- Rifle
- Shotgun

If you own or have a firearm you must:

- Sell it to a licensed gun dealer or
- Take and relinquish it to the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office
- See the attached *Firearm Relinquishment or Sale Checklist* for process

For a licensed gun dealer in your area, look under "Firearms Dealers" in your phone book.

How do I relinquish my firearm to the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office?

- Call (707) 463-4086
- Put your *unloaded* firearm in the trunk of your vehicle
 - **DO NOT RELINQUISH A LOADED FIREARM**
- Take a copy of the restraining order with you.
- Law enforcement will remove the firearm from your vehicle trunk.
- Sheriff's Office locations are:
 - 951 Low Gap Road, Ukiah
 - 125 East Commercial Street, Willits
 - 700 South Franklin Street, Fort Bragg

If I turn my firearm in to law enforcement, how long will they keep it?

- They will keep your firearm until the restraining order expires, unless you are notified otherwise
- You may retrieve your firearm within 180 days after the expiration of your restraining order or within 180 after you receive notice from law enforcement that your firearm is available for sale or transfer.
- Your firearm may be destroyed if you do not claim it within the 180 days.
- Notify the Sheriff's Office if you have a change of address.

After I give my firearm to law enforcement, can I change my mind?

- Yes. To do this, present proof to the law enforcement agency that you own the firearm(s) in the agency's possession and request that the agency transfer the firearm(s) to a licensed gun dealer who will sell or transfer the firearm to you; or a licensed gun dealer must present a *Bill of Sale* to your local law enforcement agency. The law enforcement agency will give the licensed gun dealer the firearm you are selling.

What do I need to know when I retrieve my firearm from the Sheriff's Office?

- A storage fee will be due at the time you retrieve your firearm(s).
- **FOR A HANDGUN:**
 - The Sheriff's Office will require you to present an *Eligibility to Possess Firearms* form applied for through the Department of Justice by submitting a *Law Enforcement Gun Release Application*. To obtain the form, see the attached *Firearm Relinquishment or Sale Checklist*.
- **FOR A LONG-GUN:**
 - The Sheriff's Office will require you to provide proof of ownership of the firearm such as a sales receipt or other proof of ownership documentation. The Sheriff's Office will then determine if you are the legal owner of the firearm. An *Eligibility to Possess Firearms* DOES NOT constitute proof of ownership.