

Resources for Federal Firearms Licenses (FFLs)

Liability

- Following standard policies and procedures helps keep our community safe, protects your employees, and lowers the risk of business liability around suicide²

Best Practices² (Safer Homes, Suicide Aware)

Training



- Add suicide prevention and safe storage to your employee's mandatory training
- Train employees about the facts of firearm suicide and the role of distributors, retailers, and ranges in reducing suicide

Communication



- Post suicide prevention materials in your store
- Place secure storage options near check out and encourage sales staff to suggest secure storage options
- Ensure that a supervisor or additional staff member can step in if an employee is uncomfortable

Planning



- If a customer is displaying potentially suicidal or unusual behavior (nervous, uninformed, rushing), have a plan of action in place:
 - Separate the customer for a private conversation, and ask if you can call a friend, family member, co-worker to help them
 - Have resources on hand to offer

Policies

- Firearm transfers (RCW 9.41.113)¹¹
 - Temporary transfers for suicide prevention are legal in Washington State¹²
 - If an individual is at risk of imminent risk of death or “great bodily harm” because of a firearm, they may transfer the firearm to another individual **without formal sale/transfer documentation.**
 - This transfer must only be as long as necessary to **prevent bodily harm or death.**
 - The person who takes temporary custody of the firearm **must be able to possess firearms** under state or federal law.
 - The person who the firearm is transferred to **must not use the firearm** for any purpose.
 - Information for FFLs:¹³
 - Handgun transfers: Washington FFLs will contact Washington law enforcement (LEA) to process the NICS check
 - Semiautomatic rifles (SAR), per Initiative 1639: Washington FFLs will contact Washington LEA to process the NICS check
 - “Other” transfers: Washington FFLs will contact the NICS Section to process the NICS check
 - Long gun transfers (not meeting the Washington SAR): Washington FFLs will contact the NICS Section to process the NICS check

This fact sheet was compiled from materials created by:

- Safer Homes, Suicide Aware, <https://saferhomescoalition.org/>
- The National Shooting Sports Foundation, <https://www.nssf.org/>
- The Washington Association of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs (WASPC), <https://www.waspc.org/>

View the full list of references here:

