



Action Alliance Statement on Domestic Violence and Firearms

Recognizing the significant risk that exists when a perpetrator of domestic violence has access to firearms, the Action Alliance supports laws that prohibit the purchase, transport and possession of firearms for persons subject to protective orders and/or who have been convicted of assault and battery of a family or household member. Additionally, we support attempts to give law enforcement officers and prosecutors additional tools to remove or force the surrender of firearms when these conditions are present.

Guns and domestic violence are a lethal combination. The Virginia Medical Examiner's 2010 report of a ten-year review of family and intimate partner homicide in Virginia revealed that 60.5% of all IPV homicide victims were killed with a firearm. The Virginia General Assembly has recognized that firearms pose a significant risk to victims of domestic violence and stalking by enacting laws that prohibit the purchase or transport of firearms when a person is subject to a protective order. The Action Alliance will oppose any efforts to weaken these protections for all victims of domestic violence and stalking in Virginia.