

Voluntary Firearms Storage: Insights From the Hold My Guns® Model

An Educational Overview of Opportunities and Legislative Considerations

Prepared for the Oklahoma Interim Study

*by
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Hold My Guns®*



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Thank you for being here today.

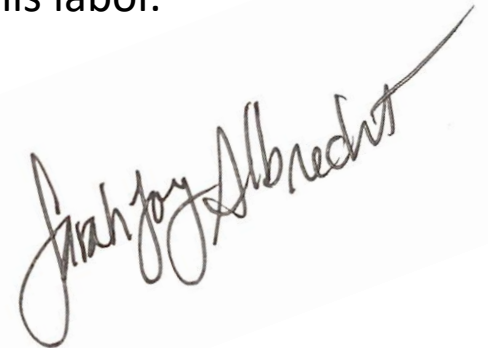
Many who care deeply about this topic, including members of the Hold My Guns® team, have lost loved ones to deaths involving firearms.

Our hearts go out to those who have endured such loss, *and we grieve with you.*

It is *with hope for change* that we pioneered a solution that treats people with dignity, respects rights, and equips individuals with resources to make life-affirming choices. We have already seen the fruit of this labor.

Yes, the work can be heavy at times; but it is worth it.

As we serve our communities, may we strengthen and encourage one another!



Leah Joy Albrecht

FREEDOM | SAFETY | COMPASSION

Hold My Guns®

**VOLUNTARY
FIREARMS STORAGE**

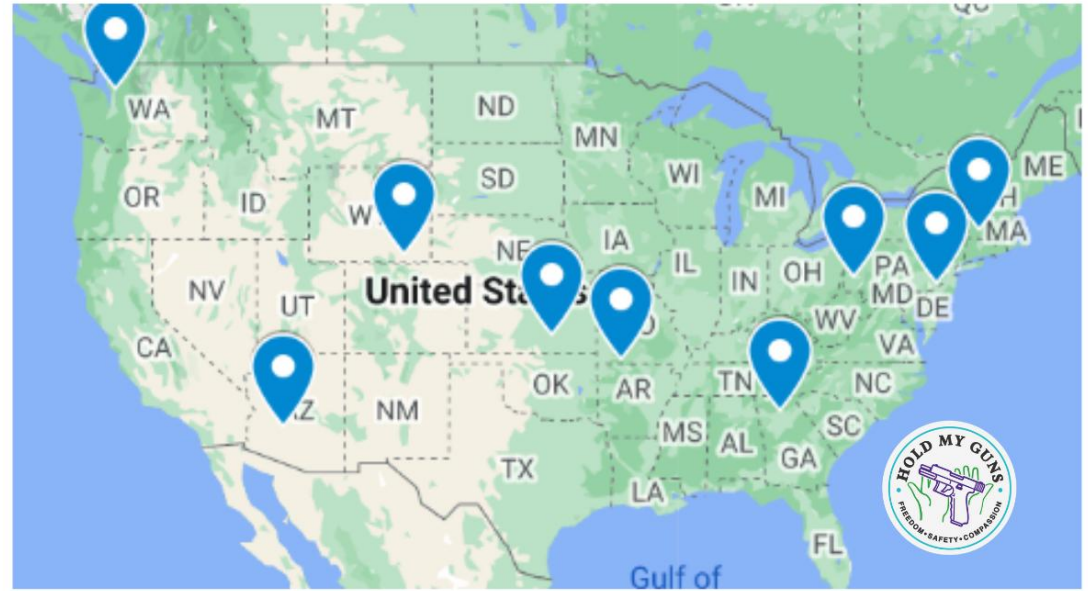
**FOR GUN OWNERS
BY GUN OWNERS**





Founded in 2018, Hold My Guns® is a nationally recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit **within the firearms community**. We partner with licensed firearms retailers to provide voluntary storage in times of need. **Our work is saving lives, protecting property, and preserving rights.**

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HOLD MY GUNS® STORAGE PARTNERS LOCATIONS ...AND GROWING



Randall Family Firearms, LLC
Everett,
Washington



Branson Cerakote, LLC
Hollister,
Missouri



Shot Tec, LLC
Bala Cynwyd,
Pennsylvania



American Trailhead, LLC
Cumming,
Georgia



Mad Partners Inc.
Buckeye,
Arizona



Range 54
Wichita,
Kansas



KC Small Arms, LLC
Easthampton,
Massachusetts



Allegheny Arms and Gun Works
Bethel Park,
Pennsylvania



Gold Spur Outfitters, LLC
Laramie, Wyoming

Hold My Guns® Partner Standards of Excellence

Reliable service, compliant liability-reducing process, trusted by gun owners

- For Gun Owners, By Gun Owners
- Federal Firearms Licensee (FFL) partners only
- Custodial storage (temporary transfer of possession) and locker storage options
- Attorney-reviewed contracts ensure compliance, transparency, and consumer protection
- Firearms secured and fully insured while in storage
- Privacy and confidentiality strictly upheld
- Active partnerships that connect clients to resources and community initiatives
- Commitment to educational growth through training, outreach, and collaboration



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Hold My Guns® Milestones

- **Created Process for Voluntary Firearms Storage**
- **450+ Firearms** Stored by Hold My Guns® FFL Partners since 2020
- **9 FFL Partners in 8 States**
- **12,000 Personal Safety Plans** distributed to individuals and families
- **300+ firearms community members** trained in QPR suicide prevention



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Reasons for Voluntary Off-site Firearms Storage Include...

- **Life Transitions** – travel, military deployment, home sale, college dorm living, estate administration
- **Health & Recovery** – medical treatment, mental health care, medication changes
- **Family Safety** – divorce, foster children, relatives with dementia, prohibited person, event hosting
- **Housing Instability** – homelessness, domestic violence shelter, temporary housing

Note: The gun owner may not be in crisis! Voluntary off-site storage is often an act of responsibility to protect others in the household from unauthorized access.



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Observations From the Field:

Hesitations and Barriers to Off-site Firearms Storage

- **Restrictions on Private Transfers** – prohibit temporary storage with trusted friends or family.
- **Assault Weapon and Magazine Bans** – complicate lawful storage of firearms and accessories.
- **Privately Manufactured Firearms Requirements**– serialization requirements complicate storage and return.
- **Mandatory Waiting Periods** – delay retrieval and discourage participation.
- **Federal Age Restriction Gap** – prevents lawful return of firearms to owners ages 18–20.
- **Lack of Liability Protections** – exposes FFLs to civil suits even when acting in good faith.
- **“Nuisance” Designations of FFLs** – increase liability exposure and deter storage partnerships.
- **NFA Regulatory Burdens** – suppressors and other items require costly, reapplication process
- **Background Check Errors** – clerical mistakes at pickup can trigger unnecessary investigations.
- **Privacy and Stigma** – gun owners fear being presumed “in crisis” for seeking storage.
- **Mandate Concerns** – worry that voluntary options could evolve into compulsory requirements.
- **Stigmatizing Language** – terms like “gun violence” alienate lawful gun owners and reduce trust.
- **ERPO/Red Flag Laws** – create fear that seeking help could lead to loss of firearms and rights.



Building on Oklahoma's Legacy of Liberty: Strengthening Voluntary Storage Solutions

*The firearms community
is a protective factor.*

- **Provide Liability Protections** – shield FFLs offering storage in good faith from civil suits.
- **Clarify Age Gap** – authorize return of lawfully stored firearms to owners ages 18–20.
- **Comprehensive Storage Protection** – ensure all firearms, ammunition, and accessories may be stored and returned without restriction or forced serialization.
- **Affirm Voluntariness** – codify that storage programs remain strictly voluntary and cannot become compulsory.
- **Safeguard Privacy** – prohibit use of customer information for registries, databases, or research.
- **Protect FFL Standing** – prohibit “nuisance” or zoning classifications that increase liability for licensed dealers.
- **Streamline NICS Corrections** – establish quick remedies for background check errors that block lawful retrieval.
- **Adopt Respectful Messaging** – avoid broad, stigmatizing terms such as “*gun violence*” in legislation or outreach; use precise language (e.g., *suicide by firearm*) to maintain trust with lawful gun owners.



Additional Ways Oklahoma Can Help Promote Voluntary Firearms Storage:

- **Recognize Voluntary Storage in Policy** – integrate voluntary storage into state safety and suicide prevention frameworks as a rights-respecting option.
- **Expand Awareness Channels** – partner on statewide campaigns to educate the public and professional communities about voluntary storage.
- **Collaborate with Local Stakeholders** – engage law enforcement, hunter safety instructors, medical and mental health providers, veterans' groups, colleges, and community services.
- **Encourage Community Outreach** – support workshops, resource fairs, and veteran-focused initiatives through partner FFLs.
- **Strengthen Referral Pathways** – equip leaders with clear guidance to connect individuals to voluntary storage without stigma.



Stay Connected with Hold My Guns®

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