

# Gun Owner Safety Plan

Owning a firearm is a right we have and with that comes **one common responsibility: to handle and store our weapons safely.** This responsibility involves thoughtful consideration about the safe operation and storage of firearms to prevent firearm-related accidents, suicides, and thefts. Another very important consideration for firearm safety is our mental health. **More than half of all gun-related deaths in the U.S. are suicides,** and of that number roughly 55% involve self-inflicted gunshot wounds, which highlights the need for gun owners to proactively develop a plan of action, by thinking through and answering the following questions before it is ever needed.<sup>1,2</sup>

How do I plan to safely and securely store my firearms?

How do I plan to check-in on my mental health prior to accessing my firearms?

How do I plan to temporarily remove access to my firearm if I'm experiencing a mental health crisis?

Who can be involved in pointing out that I'm in a temporary crisis? (include name and phone number)

1.

2.

3.

4.

What is my plan to temporarily remove my access to firearms when I'm trying a new medication that might alter my mental state?

What is my plan if someone who lives with me and has access to firearms in the home is in crisis?

What is the plan if a medical or other incident changes my long-term mental health outlook?  
Who can help me execute this plan if I'm unable to? (include name and phone number)

1.

2.

What is my plan for my firearms if I pass away?