



Oregon Alliance to End Violence Against Women

Protect Domestic Violence Victims from Firearm Violence

SB 525

Every year, *on average*, twenty-eight Oregonians are killed in domestic violence incidents. From 2003-2012, a total of 256 lives were lost.

- These deaths include women, men, and children.
- During this time, 31 of 36 counties suffered a loss of life due to domestic violence.
- Domestic violence accounts for one in four of all Oregon violent deaths.

Guns are dangerous in the hands of domestic violence abusers:

- At least 60% of domestic violence deaths in Oregon every year are by firearm.
- There is a 20x higher risk of homicide in homes where a perpetrator has access to a gun and there is a history of domestic violence.
- Domestic violence assaults with firearms are 12x more likely to end in a fatality.
- According to a CDC study, more female intimate partners are killed by firearms than by all other means combined.

Since the mid-1990s, the federal Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) has prohibited the possession of firearms by domestic violence offenders who are:

- Convicted of a qualifying misdemeanor crime of domestic violence; *or*
- Subject to qualifying restraining orders that have been upheld after a hearing.

A gap in Oregon law compromises victim safety:

- Oregon has no state law prohibiting possession by domestic violence offenders.
- Without an Oregon law, state law enforcement agencies have no authority to hold domestic violence offenders who possess firearms illegally under federal law accountable.

Oregon can do better to increase victim safety and hold offenders accountable:

- 19 states + DC prohibit possession by offenders convicted of domestic violence misdemeanors;
- 23 states + DC prohibit possession by offenders subject to Restraining Orders.

SB 525 will close this gap by amending Oregon's law to prohibit firearm possession by domestic violence offenders:

- Subject to a restraining order that has been upheld after a hearing;
- Convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence.

SB 525 will ensure that Oregon law enforcement agencies and district attorneys will have important tools to protect victims from lethal domestic violence.



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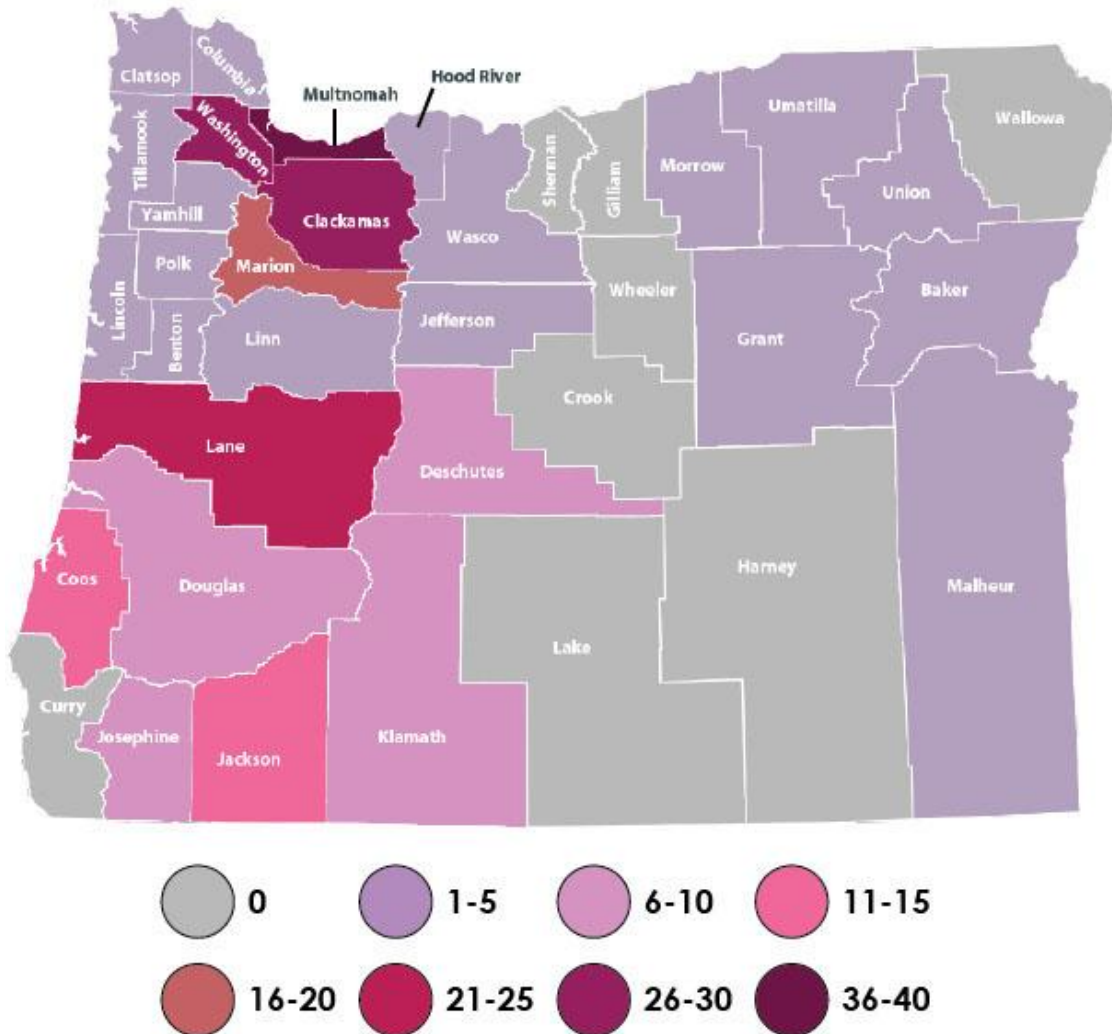
SB 525 Details:

- **Amends ORS Chapter 166 to prohibit firearm possession by:**
 - A person subject to a domestic violence restraining order issued after a hearing for which the person had actual notice and during the course of which the person had an opportunity to be heard;
 - *Unless for official use by law enforcement or state or federal governmental purposes.*
 - A person convicted of a qualifying misdemeanor crime involving domestic violence (assault IV, strangulation, or any other misdemeanor that involves as an element the use of physical force or a deadly weapon).
 - *Unless the conviction has been set aside or expunged, or the person was pardoned.*
- **Violation is a Class A Misdemeanor.**



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Number of Domestic Violence **Firearm** Fatalities Per County, 2003-2014



This map includes data from the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) for the years 2003-2012 and the Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (OCADSV) for 2009-2014. Only intimate partner violence-related homicides are tracked by OHA, and no OHA data is currently available post 2012. OCADSV tracks intimate partner violence homicides and a wider range of domestic violence homicides/suicides, including incidents between family members other than current and former intimate partners. The numbers reflected in this map are necessarily low given the limitations of current data collection efforts in Oregon and the availability of public information pertaining to ongoing investigations.



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Domestic Violence Fatalities 2014

- 1/27/14: Albany (Linn County): Boyfriend strangled Girlfriend in front of 3-year old daughter (1)
1/27/14: Umpqua (Douglas County): Husband shot and killed wife and then himself; elderly (Gun; 1/1)
2/15/14: Portland (Multnomah): Boyfriend shot/killed Girlfriend, then himself. (Gun; 1/1)
3/5/14: Keizer (Marion): Son shot/killed mom; attempted to kill dad. (Gun; 1)
3/14: Portland (Multnomah): Man shot/killed Uncle. (Gun; 1)
4/30/14: Salem (Marion): Officers responding to DV dispute shot/killed man. (Gun; 1)
5/19/14: Portland (Multnomah): Girlfriend stabbed/killed Boyfriend (Knife; 1)
6/8/14: Echo (Umatilla): Boyfriend stabbed/killed Girlfriend (Knife; 1)
6/16/14: Ontario (Malheur): Man stabbed/killed father (Knife; 1)
6/27/14: Portland (Multnomah): Man shot/killed wife and then himself. (Gun; 1/1)
7/3/14: Salem (Marion): Man stabbed/killed his brother. (Knife; 1)
7/7/14: Molalla (Clackamas): Police called to domestic dispute and possible hostage situation. Man shot/killed by police. (Gun; 1)
7/9/14: Eugene (Lane): Boyfriend strangled his Girlfriend to death. (1)
8/19/14: Mt. Angel (Marion Co.): Man strangled/killed the mother of his ex-girlfriend (in hostage situation) and then shot/killed himself. Ex-GF and young child escaped the home. (Strangulation: 1; Gun: 1)
8/19/14: Coos Co.: Man shot/killed his father. Then shot Michigan tourist who happened to be at the beach where perpetrator had retreated. Then the perpetrator shot/killed himself. (Gun; 2/1)
8/29/14: Hillsboro (Washington): Man strangled/stabbed his ex-GF to death. Young child in house during murder. (Knife; 1)
8/30/14: Silverton (Marion): Man shot/killed ex-Girlfriend. He tried to kill himself but was unsuccessful. (Gun; 1)
9/15/14: Metolius (Jefferson): Man shot/killed his son while man defending wife. (Gun; 1)
10/6/14: Hood River (Hood River): Man killed ex-girlfriend, the mother of their 3-year old child. (Unknown cause)
10/10/14: Gresham (Mult County): Man stabbed/killed his aunt (and then robbed a bank). (Knife; 1)
10/14/14: Ontario (Malheur): Man shot/killed his Girlfriend and then himself. (Gun; 1/1)
10/19/14: Bend (Deschutes Co.): Man stabbed and tried to kill his mother (she lived) and then shot/killed himself. (Gun; 1-suicide)
11/2/14: Raleigh Hills (Wash Co.): Man shot/killed his ex-GF (she had recently left him) and then tried to kill himself but was unsuccessful. (Gun; 1).
11/10/14: Portland (Multnomah): Man shot/killed his ex-wife and then shot/killed himself. The parties' two children at home during murder/suicide. (Gun; 1/1)
11/11/14: Central Point (Jackson): Man shot/killed wife. (Gun; 1)
11/11/14: Eugene (Lane): Man strangled mother.
11/23/14: Springfield (Lane): Man killed GF. Unknown how. (1)
11/26/14: Oregon City (Clackamas): Husband shot/killed wife, then shot himself but did not die. Children at the home during murder/attempted suicide. (Gun; 1)
11/27/14: Sherwood (Wash Co.): Man shot/killed Girlfriend and himself. Girlfriend's sister also shot, but she survived. (Gun; 1/1/ attempted murder).
12/8/14: Milwaukie (Clackamas): Man shot/killed his wife and himself. (Gun; 1/1)

TOTAL DEATHS (including victims, perpetrators, homicides, suicides, police-related deaths): 40

TOTAL DEATHS caused by firearms (not including police-related deaths): 26 (65%)



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Domestic Violence Fatalities 2015 to Date

- 1/05/15: Aloha (Wash Co.):** Officers responding to DV dispute shot/killed armed man. (Gun; 1)
- 1/26/15: Oregon City (Clack Co.):** Man chased wife with truck, critically injured wife then shot and killed himself. Wife later died of her injuries (Gun; 1/1)
- 1/26/15: Beaver Creek (Clack Co.):** Man killed Wife then himself; elderly. (Gun; 1/1)
- 1/30/15: Tigard (Wash Co.):** Man arrested for shooting death of girlfriend's ex-husband. (Gun; 1)
- 2/1/15: Albany (Linn):** Man arrested for stabbing death of his father. (Stabbing; 1)
- 2/11/15: Terrebonne (Deschutes):** Woman shot and killed live-in partner, then herself. (Gun; 2)
- 2/20/15: Portland (Multnomah):** Boyfriend killed girlfriend by attacking her and throwing body in river. (Blunt force trauma and drowning; 1)