

Jason Stille

From: Gilliss, Edie <Edie.Gilliss@seattle.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2019 10:36 AM
To: Jason Stille
Subject: Information for the Taskforce - re: Seattle's Safe Gun Storage legislation
Attachments: Director's Rule - FINAL.pdf

Dear Capt. Stille and the Members of the Firearm Safe Storage Task Force,

I was happy to learn of Mayor Beutler's Task Force, charged with addressing how to keep guns away from children and to increase the safe storage of firearms. I thought it might be helpful to share some information from the Office of Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan, regarding our Safe Storage ordinance. Seattle's new Responsible Storage Law requires gun owners to keep their guns in a locked container when not being carried by them or under their control, and imposes fines for crimes committed with an improperly stored gun. The law went into effect on February 13, 2019. [Here is the basic outline of our ordinance:](#)

Why is responsible storage important?

Research and common sense tell us that securing firearms:

- Prevents unintentional shooting deaths by toddlers and youth.
- Reduces the likelihood of suicide by gun, especially among youth and young adults.
- Keeps stolen guns out of the hands of criminals and other high-risk individuals.

What does this mean for you?

- Be sure your gun is safely stored when not being carried by you or under your control by February 13, 2019.

What counts as responsible storage?

- The gun must be secured in a safe, gun safe, gun case, gun cabinet, or lock box that is:
 - Designed to fully contain firearms and prevent removal of, and access to, the enclosed firearm;
 - Is capable of repeated use;
 - May be opened only by a numerical combination consisting of the entry of at least three variables entered in a specific sequence on a keypad, dial or tumbler device; key, magnetic key, or electronic key; or by biometric identification; and
 - Be constructed with such quality of workmanship and material that it may not be easily pried open, removed, or otherwise defeated by the use of common tools.
- Full rules available [here](#).

Fines introduced by this legislation:

- Up to \$500 fine (or community service) for failure to store a gun in a locked container.
- Up to \$1,000 fine (or community service) if the unsafely-stored gun is obtained by youth, prohibited individual, or "at-risk person."
- Up to \$10,000 if the unsafely-stored gun is used to injure, kill or commit a crime.

More Information:

- The link to Seattle's Safe Storage Legislation:
(<https://seattle.legistar.com/ViewReport.ashx?M=R&N=Text&GID=393&ID=3135447&GUID=16392242-0EDE-4FE3-BD78-11CDB5F1FE3C&Title=Legislation+Text>)
- Director's Rule we released on how the law will be implemented: attached.

Coverage of the Ordinance:

<https://crosscut.com/2018/03/seattle-pursues-gun-laws-where-it-can-starting-safe-storage>

<https://www.thestranger.com/slog/2018/07/09/28935007/new-seattle-law-requires-gun-owners-to-lockup-firearms-or-face-fines>

Coverage of the dismissed lawsuit:

A lawsuit filed by the NRA to fight an ordinance requiring gun owners to secure their firearms in a locked container was dismissed by the King County Superior Court on Friday.

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/news/opinion/huppke/ct-met-nra-seattle-lawsuit-safe-storage-huppke-20180723-story.html>

Please let us know how we can be helpful, as we are happy to see more cities taking this on! As Mayor Durkan said, "I simply refuse, as mayor, any more to be in the position where all I can tell grieving parents, brothers and sisters is that there's nothing we can do. Everyone can still own a gun, they can still carry a gun, they can still transport a gun, but if you leave it behind, you've got to lock it up."

Thanks!



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September 13, 2018

**PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CONCERNING THE SAFE STORAGE OF
FIREARMS**

Re: Specifications for Storage Devices Approved of or Meeting Requirements for the Safe Storage of Firearms Under Seattle Municipal Code Chapter 10.79.

WHEREAS, Seattle Municipal Code Chapter 10.79 sets forth requirements for the safe storage of firearms in the City of Seattle; and

WHEREAS, SMC 10.79.010(D) directs the Chief of Police to establish by administrative rule specifications for storage devices approved as meeting the requirement of “locked container” as used in SMC Chapter 10.79; and

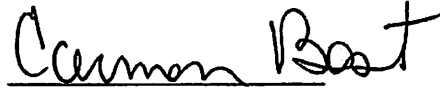
WHEREAS, the Seattle Police Department has researched standard industry specifications for the same, including standards adopted by the State of California, Department of Justice and the roster of firearm safety devices certified for sale in California (<https://oag.ca.gov/firearms/fsdcertlist/>); the State of New York Codes, Rules and Regulations; the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; and guidance from the State of Texas Department of Public Safety, Regulatory Services Division; and

NOW, therefore, for purposes of SMC Chapter 10.79, a “locked container” means

- (1) A safe, gun safe, gun case, gun cabinet, or lock box that is
 - (a) designed to fully contain firearms and prevent removal of, and access to, the enclosed firearm;
 - (b) Is capable of repeated use;

Re: Specifications for Storage Devices Approved of or Meetings Requirements for the Safe Storage of Firearms Under Seattle Municipal Code Chapter 10.79.

- (c) May be opened only by a numerical combination consisting of the entry of at least three variables entered in a specific sequence on a keypad, dial or tumbler device; key, magnetic key, or electronic key; or by biometric identification; and
- (d) Be constructed with such quality of workmanship and material that it may not be easily pried open, removed, or otherwise defeated by the use of common tools.



Carmen Best
Carmen Best
Chief of Police