



WHY IS THE GUN SAFETY CONSORTIUM ISSUING A [REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS](#)?

The joint RFP we are issuing in late April is a call to action to the private sector. The cities and counties that make up the Gun Safety Consortium are asking manufacturers, investors, product developers and retailers to get products and technologies to market that can help gun owners (civilians in our communities as well as our law enforcement officers) secure their firearms against theft and unauthorized or unintentional use. Over the next two years, the Consortium will:

- Identify a variety of promising gun safety products and technologies
- Purchase limited quantities of these products and involve law enforcement officers and firearms experts in hands-on evaluation of each of them
- Provide useful feedback to product developers
- Enable participating jurisdictions to make informed purchasing decisions to equip our officers with proven gun security products to protect themselves and their families
- Issue recommendations for the types of products that can reduce gun-related crime and shooting deaths among civilians

WHY ARE THESE PRODUCTS & TECHNOLOGIES IMPORTANT?

Fewer than half of the nation's gun owners regularly keep their guns secured, according to studies. Unsecured guns lead to deadly consequences:

- An estimated 400,000 guns are stolen each year from homes, vehicles and businesses. Stolen guns enter trafficking pipelines, and are often used in violent crimes -- in many cases multiple crimes.
- More than 20,000 people die by suicide each year using firearms. Many of these victims find guns left unsecured by parents, relatives or friends.
- Hundreds of young children find unsecured firearms each year and pull the trigger, with too many tragic outcomes.

These problems are compounded by the surge in gun ownership during the COVID pandemic. One reason many gun owners cite for failing to secure their firearms is their desire to keep a firearm ready for use; traditional locks are seen as too slow to unlock. A new generation of products offering ready access while also deterring theft or unauthorized use creates the possibility that millions more gun owners will get in the habit of always keeping their weapons secured.

WHAT OTHER TYPES OF PRODUCTS ARE NEEDED ON THE MARKET?

In addition to locking and storage devices that allow ready access for authorized users, we seek to encourage product innovation and development in a range of other areas:

- Firearms that incorporate user-authentication technology (aka “smart guns”)
- Products and technologies that alert owners when a firearm is moved, and/or that can help locate stolen firearms
- Gun safes or locking devices designed for vehicles
- Sidearm holsters incorporating quick-release locking capability, preventing “gun grabs” from law enforcement personnel
- Firearms that incorporate advanced ballistics identification capability (e.g. bullet microstamping), to assist with police ballistics investigations
- Methods for imprinting unique identifying numbers on separate gun parts, to assist with tracing recovered crime guns or “ghost guns”

HAVE PROMISING PRODUCTS ALREADY BEEN IDENTIFIED?

Law enforcement officers from 10 cities and counties in the Consortium are already conducting hands-on evaluation of four products: [Identilock](#), [Reach 2 by Vara Safety](#), [Gun Guardian](#), and [T-Lock](#). Through the RFP, we will do a more systematic market search.

WHAT IS THE LONG-TERM VISION?

The Consortium seeks to encourage product innovation in a range of areas that will reduce gun-related crime and violence in America. We're sending a clear signal to the market -- to established players as well as startups -- that:

- There is money to be made in gun safety innovation, and
- Public-sector gun purchasers expect their firearms suppliers to be in the forefront of this innovation.

We believe the problem of gun violence requires action not just from Congress and the President, but from citizens, local officials and the market. Consortium members are working to do our part by pooling our buying power, research and expertise.

HOW CAN CITIES, COUNTIES & STATES JOIN THE RFP?

[Public officials can sign on here](#). Adding your jurisdiction will strengthen the RFP.

DOES JOINING THE RFP MAKE US CONSORTIUM MEMBERS?

No, members pay dues. [You can use this form to join](#) -- or contact a member of our Steering Team or staff to discuss membership. The members will carry out project evaluations and share findings with other participating officials/jurisdictions. We hope you will join the Consortium -- but if you're not ready to commit to membership, please support this effort now by joining the RFP.

GUN SAFETY CONSORTIUM STEERING TEAM

Mayor John Cranley, Cincinnati OH
 County Executive Stuart Pittman, Anne Arundel County MD
 Mayor Joseph Ganim, Bridgeport CT
 Chief of Police Frank Kaminski, Park Ridge IL
 Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz, Toledo OH
 Sheriff Ron Hain, Kane County IL