



San Diego City Attorney
Mara W. Elliott



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San Diego City Attorney Mara W. Elliott to Expand Gun Violence Prevention Efforts Following Unanimous Council Vote Today

San Diego City Attorney Mara W. Elliott sought and received unanimous approval from the City Council to expand her statewide gun violence prevention work using a \$2.2 million grant from the California Department of Justice. After obtaining more than 1,000-gun violence restraining orders (GVRO) and removing more than 3,000 firearms from dangerous hands, the City Attorney's GVRO program is recognized as a national model for effective gun violence prevention. The additional funding enables the City Attorney's team to provide trainings throughout the state on all gun-prohibiting orders, and to build regional infrastructure that makes gun violence prevention tools accessible to all Californians.

The following is the Official statement of San Diego City Attorney Mara Elliott to the City Council:

“Item 332 concerns my office’s request that the City of San Diego accept \$2.2 million in grant funding from the California Department of Justice.

This money will significantly expand the reach of my office's life-saving work in Gun Violence Restraining Orders, Domestic Violence Restraining Orders, and other crisis intervention tools that keep firearms out of the hands of people who should not have them.

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For each of the past two years, I have joined my fellow civil prosecutors around the State to ask for additional State funding for this program.

Last year, we received a million dollars. This year, Governor Newsom and the Legislature doubled that amount to \$2.2 million.

I wanted to express our immense gratitude to the Governor, the Legislature, and Attorney General Bonta for their vote of confidence in our work.

As the Union Tribune recently reported, because of our work, more than 3,000 dangerous weapons have been removed from those who pose a threat to themselves or to others. This includes stalkers, disgruntled employees, and potential school shooters.

This funding will expand the scope of our current trainings so that we may include trainings on all gun-prohibiting orders.

It will also expand our work beyond our City's limits to regions throughout the State.

What I am most excited about is that, in addition to training, we are going to build a regional infrastructure where law enforcement, prosecutors, the courts, and community members break down silos and give everyone access to these life-saving tools regardless of which jurisdiction they live or work in.

We ask that you approve this item so that we may expand our important life-saving work.”

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