

## PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE

## BUREAU OF COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION SERVICES 8001 BRETZ DRIVE HARRISBURG, PA 17112

February 26, 2019

## Dear Law Enforcement Partners:

In October 2018, Governor Wolf signed into law Act 79 which made significant changes to the Protection From Abuse (PFA) Order requirements. The Act created new procedures regarding the relinquishment of firearms, ammunition, and other weapons by the defendant named in a PFA Order. Prior to this Act, firearms could be relinquished to a family member, friend, or county Sheriff's Office and defendants were allowed at least 30 days to comply with the relinquishment order. Effective April 10, 2019, Act 79 provides the following changes:

- Firearms can no longer be given to friends or family for safekeeping;
- Firearms, ammunition, and other weapons can be relinquished to ANY law enforcement agency, Sheriff's Office, Federal Firearms Licensed dealers or a licensed commercial armory;
- Firearms, ammunition, and other weapons must be relinquished within 24 hours of the issuance of a Final Protection Order or the service of a Temporary Protection Order, unless special circumstances exist.

To facilitate this statutory mandate, the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) and the Pennsylvanian Coalition Against Domestic Violence have developed a process within the Protection From Abuse Database (PFAD) system to help record, monitor, and track these relinquishments.

Training will be provided prior to the effective date of the Act; however, PSP is requesting every law enforcement agency to submit a minimum of three but no more than five users who will have access to the PFAD system. These representatives will be responsible to input firearms, ammunition, and other weapon(s) into PFAD in the event an individual relinquishes these items to your department. To accomplish this, please access the PFAD system online at <a href="https://www.pfad.pa.gov">www.pfad.pa.gov</a> and click the "Request Account" tab at the top. Complete the required information and an account request will be created. When designating individuals within your agency, keep in mind that PFA defendants may relinquish firearms, ammunition, or other weapons at any time and the agency will be required to update the PFAD system.

Questions regarding obtaining access to PFAD and this process can be directed to raclean@pa.gov.

Lieutenant Nicholas DelRomano

Commander, CLEAN Administrative Section