

King County Administrative Policies and Procedures

Title	Document Code No.
Directing the development and implementation of data-driven, public health strategies to reduce gun violence in King County	PHL-15-1 (AEO)
Department/Issuing Agency	Date
Department of Public Health	February 14, 2013

This order directs Public Health – Seattle & King County to develop and implement data-driven local strategies to reduce gun violence in King County.

WHEREAS, more than 31,000 people in the United States are killed by gun violence each year, including more than 125 in King County; and

WHEREAS, more people in King County die from gun violence than motor vehicle crashes; and

WHEREAS, gun violence is a preventable public health problem; and

WHEREAS, public health approaches have demonstrated success in reducing deaths from tobacco use, accidental poisonings, and motor vehicle crashes; and

WHEREAS, while local governments do not have the authority to regulate firearms, we can apply a public health approach to develop local strategies that will reduce gun violence;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dow Constantine, King County Executive, do hereby order and direct:

Public Health – Seattle & King County to work with local leaders and community partners to develop and implement data-driven local strategies to reduce gun violence.

Strategies shall include, but not be limited to:

- Collecting and analyzing data on gun injuries and death in order to build the evidence base to inform the development of effective prevention policies and strategies.
- Piloting a Youth Shooting Review, patterned after the Child Death review, with representatives from public health, criminal justice, social services, and education to review the circumstances surrounding injuries or deaths involving youth and guns with the goal of creating community interventions that will prevent further tragedies.
- Including additional questions regarding gun ownership and storage on public health surveys to inform the development of strategies that will promote responsible gun ownership in the home.
- Working with sellers and retailers to develop strategies that they can implement to encourage responsible gun ownership.
- Convening local leaders and community partners to review data and evidence regarding gun violence in our community and to develop local solutions that are within King County's authority.

Dated this 4th day of February, 2013.

King County Executive

Attest:

Norm Alberg
Director Designee, Records and Licensing Services Division