



Multnomah County Sheriff's Office

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Statement from Sheriff Dan Staton Regarding Recent Gun Control Dialogue:

To the Citizens of Multnomah County:

Recent media events have triggered an energized and sometimes reactive dialogue regarding gun control in our country. As a result, our Office has received multiple inquiries as to our position on gun control and the Second Amendment generally. In response, I would like to issue the following statement:

The first line of my Oath of Office is that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and I have and intend to continue to do that very thing. I support the rights of citizens granted by the Constitution, and have worked hard to ensure those rights are protected. This work has been both locally and through work with other Sheriff's at the state legislature, where I have supported rights to privacy for concealed handgun holders in my county, and tougher screening of concealed handgun applicants overall.

I do not, however, plan to make any immediate change of policy or practice with regard to recent reports I have heard of gun control measures proposed by elected officials locally or nationally. No change in the practices of this Office will come without both a clear understanding of the measures proposed or enacted into law, or a chance to hear back from the citizens of Multnomah County regarding these proposals. Nor do I believe that a fast-tracked approach will be effective in improving what is a very complex issue in our country.

I am personally shocked and saddened by the recent events that have brought these issues front and center, and I will be engaged with my fellow elected officials, public safety partners and the citizens of this county as we thoughtfully consider what measures might be taken to curb the violence seen in these recent events.

Thank you,

Sheriff Dan Staton