

## COUNTY OF FRESNO

Lisa A. Smittcamp District Attorney

## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 28, 2021

## **District Attorney Joins Fresno Police Chief in Reminding Gun Owners to Responsibly and Safely Store Firearms**

Fresno County District Attorney Lisa Smittcamp joins Fresno Police Chief Paco Balderrama in reminding all gun owners that they have a responsibility to ensure that any guns in their homes are stored safely and in manner making the firearms inaccessible to children or other unauthorized persons. Hiding a gun under a bed, in a closet or in a nightstand is <u>not</u> safe storage. Firearms should be stored in a locked safe, gun vault or in a storage case not accessible to children. Additionally, ammunition should be stored in a separate and secure location to maximize safety.

District Attorney Lisa Smittcamp stated, "Recently in Fresno, children have accessed guns kept within their households leading to the loss of life or serious injury. I cannot emphasize enough the need for gun owners to store their firearms responsibly and safely. Responsible firearm storage is the number one way to prevent gun accidents, theft, or improper use. As a community, we must make every effort we can to ensure firearms are securely stored so that our children are kept safe."

There are numerous resources available to help gun owners with guidance on proper firearm storage. The public can find firearm safety tips online at <u>https://oag.ca.gov/firearms/tips</u>.

Any inquiries about this release should be directed to FCDAMedia@fresnocountyca.gov.