

New Year, Safe Storage



DEFENSE SUICIDE PREVENTION OFFICE

Start the New Year strong with safe firearm storage.

One of the most effective ways to prevent suicide is to securely store all lethal means.



Secure storage saves lives by creating crucial time and space between someone with thoughts of suicide and lethal means.

MEDICATION STORAGE



Do not keep large quantities of over-the-counter or prescribed medications.



Consider securely storing all medications and household poisons in lockable containers and using timed medicine release lock boxes.



Dispose of medications that are no longer needed or are expired. Contact your pharmacy for disposal information.



Substance use can impair judgment and increase the risk of harm. If you drink, do so in moderation, stay aware of your surroundings, and know your limits. Alcohol combined with certain medications can also cause dangerous effects.

You can reach the National Poison Control Center at 1-800-222-1222



FIREARM STORAGE



Securely store firearms and ammunition separately.



Ensure firearms are unloaded and securely stored. Consider using locking mechanisms like cable locks, trigger locks, lock boxes, and safes.



If in distress, consider providing keys to a trusted individual or have them change your combination locks.



As a further measure, consider storing firearms outside the home with a trusted person or in a secure storage facility.*

*Check your state's firearm transfer laws.

Visit: <https://www.usa.gov/state-attorney-general> to inquire further with your state's Attorney General's Office.

Visit: [KeepItSecure.net](https://www.KeepItSecure.net) to learn more about practical steps you can take to secure lethal means.