1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to protective injunctions and 3 protection orders; amending s. 741.30, F.S.; requiring 4 a respondent to surrender to the local law enforcement 5 agency all firearms, ammunition, and licenses to carry 6 a concealed weapon or firearm after the issuance of a 7 final judgment on an injunction for protection against 8 domestic violence; providing for the surrender and 9 storage of firearms, ammunition, and licenses to carry 10 a concealed weapon or firearm after issuance of a 11 protective injunction; requiring law enforcement 12 agencies to develop certain policies and procedures; providing for return of firearms, ammunition, and 13 14 licenses to carry a concealed weapon or firearm when a 15 protective injunction is vacated, terminated, or 16 otherwise rendered no longer affective; authorizing a 17 respondent to elect to transfer all firearms and ammunition surrendered or seized by a law enforcement 18 agency to another person under certain circumstances; 19 amending s. 741.31, F.S.; revising the criminal 20 21 penalty for a second or subsequent violation of an 22 injunction for protection against domestic violence or 23 a foreign protection order; providing an effective 24 date. 25

Page 1 of 8

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsections (9) and (10) of section 741.30, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (10) and (11), respectively, paragraph (g) of subsection (6) is amended, and a new subsection (9) is added to that section, to read:

741.30 Domestic violence; injunction; powers and duties of court and clerk; petition; notice and hearing; temporary injunction; issuance of injunction; statewide verification system; enforcement; public records exemption.—

(6)

- (g) A final judgment on injunction for protection against domestic violence entered under this section must, on its face, indicate that it is a violation of s. 790.233, and a first degree misdemeanor, for the respondent to have in his or her care, custody, possession, or control any firearm or ammunition. Upon issuance of a final judgment on injunction for protection against domestic violence, the court shall order the respondent to surrender to the local law enforcement agency all firearms and ammunition owned by the respondent in the respondent's custody, control, or possession except as provided in paragraph (9) (g), and any license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm issued under s. 790.06, held by the respondent.
- (9) (a) Upon issuance of a final judgment on injunction for protection against domestic violence, the law enforcement

Page 2 of 8

51

52

53

54

55

56

57

58

59

60

61

62

63

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

71

72

73

74

75

officer serving the injunction for protection shall request that the respondent immediately surrender all firearms and ammunition owned by the respondent in his or her custody, control, or possession and any license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm issued under s. 790.06, held by the respondent. The law enforcement officer shall take possession of all firearms and ammunition owned by the respondent, except as provided in paragraph (g), and any license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm issued under s. 790.06, held by the respondent, which are surrendered. Alternatively, if personal service by a law enforcement officer is not possible or is not required because the respondent was present at the hearing, the respondent must surrender any firearms and ammunition owned by the respondent, except as provided in paragraph (g), and any license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm issued under s. 790.06, held by the respondent, in a safe manner to the control of the local law enforcement agency immediately after being served with the order by service or immediately after the hearing at which the respondent was present. Notwithstanding ss. 933.02 and 933.18, a law enforcement officer may seek a search warrant from a court of competent jurisdiction to conduct a search for firearms or ammunition owned by the respondent if the officer has probable cause to believe that there are firearms or ammunition owned by the respondent in the respondent's custody, control, or possession at a particular location which have not been

Page 3 of 8

## surrendered.

(b) At the time of surrender, a law enforcement officer taking possession of any firearm or ammunition owned by the respondent, or a license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm issued under s. 790.06, held by the respondent shall issue a receipt identifying all firearms and the quantity and type of ammunition that have been surrendered, and any license surrendered and shall provide a copy of the receipt to the respondent. Within 72 hours after service of the injunction, the law enforcement officer serving the injunction must file the original receipt with the court and ensure that his or her law enforcement agency or office retains a copy of the receipt.

(c) Notwithstanding ss. 933.02 and 933.18, upon the sworn statement or testimony of a law enforcement officer alleging that the respondent has failed to comply with the surrender of firearms or ammunition owned by the respondent, as required by an injunction issued under this section, the court shall determine whether probable cause exists to believe that the respondent has failed to surrender all firearms or ammunition owned by the respondent in the respondent's custody, control, or possession. If the court finds probable cause that firearms or ammunition owned by the respondent are located in a particular location, the court must issue a search warrant authorizing a search of the location where the firearms or ammunition owned by

the respondent discovered pursuant to such search.

- (d) If a person other than the respondent claims title to any firearms or ammunition surrendered pursuant to this subsection and he or she is determined by the law enforcement agency to be the lawful owner of the firearm or ammunition, the firearm or ammunition must be returned to him or her, if:
- 1. The lawful owner agrees to store the firearm or ammunition in a manner such that the respondent does not have access to or control of the firearm or ammunition.
- 2. The firearm or ammunition is not otherwise unlawfully possessed by the owner.
- (e) All law enforcement agencies must develop policies and procedures regarding the acceptance, storage, and return of firearms, ammunition, or licenses required to be surrendered under this section.
- violence is vacated, terminated, or otherwise rendered no longer effective by ruling of the court, a law enforcement agency holding a firearm or any ammunition owned by the respondent or a license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm issued under s. 790.06, held by the respondent, that has been surrendered or seized pursuant to this subsection must return such surrendered firearm, ammunition, or license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm issued under s. 790.06, as requested by a respondent only after confirming through a background check that the

respondent is currently eligible to own or possess firearms and ammunition under federal and state law and after confirming with the court that the injunction has been vacated, terminated, or otherwise rendered no longer effective.

- 2. If an injunction for protection against domestic violence is vacated, terminated, or otherwise rendered no longer effective by ruling of the court, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, if it has suspended a license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm pursuant to this subsection, must reinstate such license only after confirming that the respondent is currently eligible to have a license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm pursuant to s. 790.06.
- 3. A law enforcement agency must provide notice or make a reasonable effort to provide notice to the petitioner.
- 4. Any firearm and ammunition surrendered by a respondent pursuant to this subsection which remains unclaimed by the lawful owner for 1 year after an injunction has been vacated, terminated, or otherwise rendered no longer effective must be disposed of in accordance with the law enforcement agency's policies and procedures for the disposal of firearms in police custody.
- (g) A respondent may elect to transfer all firearms and ammunition owned by the respondent that have been surrendered to or seized by a local law enforcement agency pursuant to paragraph (a) to another person who is willing to receive the

Page 6 of 8

respondent's firearms and ammunition. The law enforcement agency
must allow such a transfer only if it is determined that the
chosen recipient:

- 1. Currently is eligible to own or possess a firearm and ammunition under federal and state law after confirmation through a background check.
- 2. Attests to storing the firearms and ammunition in a manner such that the respondent does not have access to or control of the firearms and ammunition until the injunction against the respondent is vacated, terminated, or otherwise rendered no longer effective by ruling of the court.
- 3. Attests not to transfer the firearms or ammunition back to the respondent until the injunction against the respondent is vacated, terminated, or otherwise rendered no longer effective by ruling of the court.

## Section 2. Paragraph (c) of subsection (4) of section 741.31, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 741.31 Violation of an injunction for protection against domestic violence.—
- (4)

(c) A person who has <u>a two or more prior conviction</u>

convictions for violation of an injunction or <u>a</u> foreign

protection order, and who subsequently commits a second or

subsequent violation of any injunction or foreign protection

order against the same victim, commits a felony of the third

Page 7 of 8

degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083 or s. 775.084. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "conviction" means a determination of guilt which is the result of a plea or a trial, regardless of whether adjudication is withheld or a plea of nolo contendere is entered.

176

177

178

179

180

181

Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 2026.

Page 8 of 8