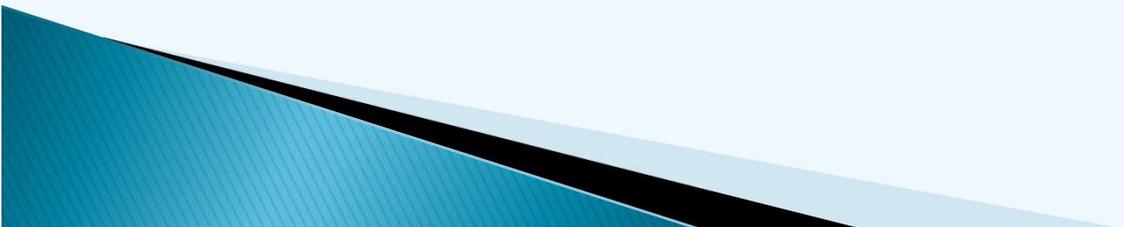


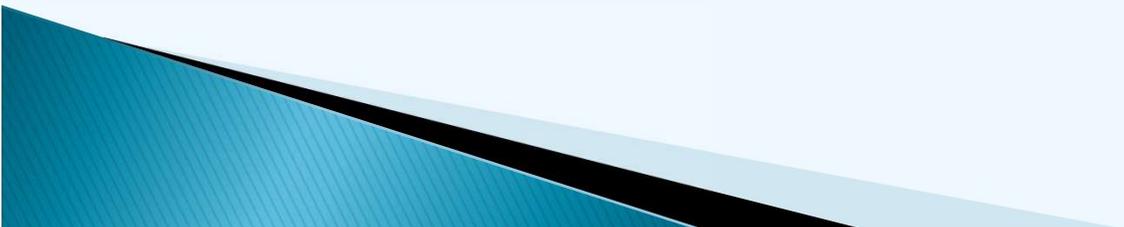
Coventry Firearms Safety & Home Shooting Range Study Committee

Town of Coventry, Connecticut
Presented by: Brian Murray–Chair
Date: TBD

Committee Purpose

- ▶ Assess firearm use in Coventry for public health, safety, and welfare considerations
 - ▶ Evaluate the need for potential ordinances to address identified concerns
 - ▶ Balance individual firearm rights with the safety and well-being of the broader community
 - ▶ Report findings and recommendations to the Town Council
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Committee Objectives

- ▶ Review existing local, state, and federal firearms laws and ordinances
 - ▶ Analyze firearm-related regulations in other Connecticut municipalities
 - ▶ Collect data and input from law enforcement agencies
 - ▶ Develop draft ordinances or policy recommendations, if warranted
 - ▶ Present conclusions and proposals to town leadership
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Research and Data Collection

- ▶ **Police Incident Reports:**
 - Sample from the past 4 years of Coventry Police Department Incidents
- ▶ **Comparable Municipalities Studied:**
 - Towns: Newtown, Tolland, Avon, Cromwell, South Windsor
 - Cities: Norwalk, Stratford, Middletown, Hartford

Police Report Summary

- ▶ Safety risks to both firearm users and nearby residents
- ▶ Lack of clear, enforceable safety guidelines
 - Bullet containment and backstop requirements
 - Minimum distance from homes and structures
- ▶ Excessive noise levels and duration of use
- ▶ Limited tools for law enforcement to regulate informal shooting activity

Current Regulatory Framework

- ▶ State Law Highlights:

- Unlawful discharge provisions
- Hunting restrictions: 500 feet minimum from dwellings and livestock

- ▶ Local Gaps:

- No local ordinances guiding recreational discharge or backyard ranges
- Enforcement challenges during neighborhood incidents

Committee Recommendations?

- ▶ Do we need an ordinance based on findings to be finalized during the June 19 meeting
 - ▶ Proposed ordinance or safety guidelines
 - ▶ Suggested enforcement mechanisms and regulatory language
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Next Steps for the Town Council

- ▶ Review committee findings and proposed recommendations
 - ▶ Hold a public hearing (TBD) to gather resident input
 - ▶ Revise, finalize, and vote on any proposed ordinance changes
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