



Minnesota Sheriffs' Association
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The Minnesota Sheriffs' Association is sponsoring Rick Hodsdon's

Gun Permits and ERPO's: Proving and Litigating Danger to Self or Public

November 12, 2026
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
(This class will be offered live online)

Minnesota Statutes allow an issuing authority to deny gun transfer or carry permits even when the applicant is not barred by federal or state law from gun possession if issuance of a permit can be established by clear and convincing evidence to present a substantial likelihood that issuance will present a danger to self or the public. The same standard is used when application is made for an Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO) used to obtain a court order to prohibit the respondent from legally possessing or obtaining a firearm. While the language seems plain enough, sheriffs, police and their attorneys sometimes struggle to decide if the facts justify denial of a permit or application for an ERPO. This class will try to help answer those questions.

In this class Rick Hodsdon, MSA general counsel and widely recognized law enforcement "gun guy", will explore the legal standards to consider in making these decisions and dive into practical proof, evidence and litigation strategies to help you decide in denying or granting permits, revoking existing permits and applying for an ERPO. Rick will discuss ideas and lessons learned from his own litigation in this area and ideas collected from law enforcement and attorneys from around the state. The class will be helpful to gun permit decision makers, those who address ERPO issues and the attorneys who advise them.

Richard Hodsdon has spent all his professional life representing and defending state and local officials, conducting criminal prosecutions, training and advising criminal justice and government officials. Rick has spent 8 years as a special assistant Minnesota Attorney General, a year in private practice and over 30 years as an assistant county attorney for Washington County Minnesota. Rick has been legal counsel for the Minnesota Sheriffs' Association since 1987. **Rick has also been the author of the Sheriffs' Association annually updated Civil Process Manual for over 20 years. He is often contacted by county attorney's seeking help to advise their sheriffs on civil process issues.**

Cost: \$50 per person

Online: Zoom link will be emailed to those attending online.

Registration: Register for this training [HERE](#) (or visit the MSA Website and navigate to Trainings → Legal Issues for Public Agencies)